

INSIDE: The mysterious trove of Nazi memories

Maclean's

FEBRUARY 6, 1984

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

\$1.25



THE OLYMPIC PROMISE

**Barbara Underhill and
Paul Martini: members of
Canada's best Games team**



Maclean's

FEBRUARY 6, 1994 VOL. 37 NO. 66

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Setting the election agenda
At the onset of the 1984 presidential race, President Ronald Reagan confidently declared that his administration had revived the nation's flagging fortunes. — **Page 19**



Colonizing the heavens
In a speech last week that was rich with nationalistic rhetoric, President Reagan committed the United States to an \$8-billion program to build a space station. — **Page 48**

COVER

Canada's Olympic promise

Next week the 16th Winter Olympic games in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, and the world will be treated to two weeks of the pageantry and spectacle of the games of snow and ice. And Canada has sent its best-ever winter Olympic team, carrying with them the hopes of a nation and the promise of bringing home more medals than from other Olympics. — **Page 37**

COVER PHOTO BY MARK WOODWARD/STARR



Lévesque's fading dream
The Parti Québécois is in trouble. René Lévesque's popularity is slipping, the Liberals are ahead in the polls and support for an independent Quebec is waning. — **Page 39**



The party circuit
Although Ken Taylor's future remains uncertain, Canada's consul general in New York is the star of a round of farewell Stun given by luminaries. — **Page 38**

CONTENTS

Books	59
Business/Economy	37
Canada	39
Cover	24
Editorial	2
Film	54
Fotheringham	58
Follow-up	4
Gordon	9
Health	48
Justice	44
Letters	4
Newman	42
Passages	4
People	36
Space	46
World	18

Money worries

It is amazing to note the concern expressed by Ontario Recreation Minister Reuben Brusa that the occasional Canadian might become too rich from winning a lottery (Those crazy lotteries, Cover, Jan. 20). To prevent such an unfortunate occurrence, Brusa has suggested putting a ceiling on jackpots. Does that sound like a concern about wealth signal a trend? Perhaps governments of all levels will start to worry next about the adverse effects of money on the already rich, or possibly some minister might even be moved to operate about the adverse effects of sudden poverty on the growing number of newly poor in this country.

—MARK MELROSE,
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

A Scandinavian scramble

If Lex Ullmann were 40 years older, your reference to her as a "Swedish import" might be considered correct (People, Dec. 12). However, Norway is no longer part of the kingdom of Sweden, and although Ullmann was born in Tokyo, she did grow up in Oslo and still considers herself Norwegian.

—NORRBYN WOLLE,
Denver, Colo.

Canadians will perhaps understand that we Norwegians do not feel that the thoroughly Norwegian Lex Ullmann has acted in a number of Bengtman films makes her any more "Swedish," as you call her, than Mary Pickford's Hollywood years made her American.

—PER EYENSTEDT,
Oslo, Norway



Lottery winners: rich, adverse effects

A man of western values

I read with dismay your slanted opinion of the outgoing governor general, Edward Schreyer (The First Lady, Cover, Jan. 15). Once again we in Western Canada have been reminded of the media's eye view from Bay Street—that any person emerging from west of Ontario will be acknowledged only as a curious aberration from the Toronto norm. When "Canada's weekly newspaper" announces that a man who embodies in many typical western values does not belong in Ottawa, one is left to wonder if the West as a whole has ever belonged in a Canada controlled by the exclusive payoffs of southern Ontario.

—TIM THEBESFORD,
Winnipeg

Remembering Stan

I was astonished and dismayed to find in your *Frontier* of 3rd edition (Jan. 20) that you failed to note the tragic death of Stan Rogers, folk musician and songwriter, aboard the *Air Canada* jet in Chesebrough. Despite the fact that more than 250,000 Canadians annually attend folk music festivals across the country, your coverage of folk music has always been scanty. However, in not acknowledging Rogers' contribution to Canadian culture, as have *Canadian Forum* and *Newsworld*, you ultimately fail in your claim to be "Canada's weekly news magazine."

—TIM HARRISON,
Toronto

Editor's note: Maclean's reported the death of Stan Rogers on Jan. 20 issue.

Letters are edited and may be condensed. Writers should include name, address and telephone number. Best correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, Maclean's magazine, Maclean House Bldg., 777 Bay St., Toronto Ont. M5W 1A7.

PASSAGES

APPOINTED: Larra Marsden, 40, sociology professor and vice-provost of the University of Toronto, to the Senate, by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. Marsden was vice-president of the federal Liberal party from 1975 to 1980 and chaired its standing committee on policy since 1983.

ALIENO: Governor General designate Jeanne Sauvé, 61, in an Ottawa hospital suffering from a respiratory virus complicated by an allergy to antibiotics. Sauvé was scheduled to be sworn in as Canada's 24th and first female governor general in early March but the swearing-in ceremony has been indefinitely postponed.

AWARDED: To French architect Roger Taillibert, 58, designer of Montreal's Olympic Stadium, \$2.8 million of his \$32-million claim against the City of Montreal and the provincial Olympic Institutions Board for unpaid fees, by Quebec Superior Court Judge Charles H. Gauthier. In Montreal Gauthier reported the rest of Taillibert's claim as well as a \$13.5-million counterclaim by the board against Taillibert which alleged that he failed to carry out all his professional duties.

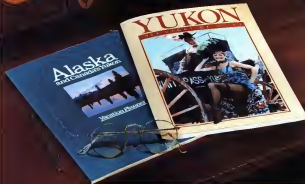
DIED: Eric Denton Massey, 83, a cousin of former governor general Vincent Massey and actor Raymond Massey, in Etobicoke, Ont. Massey, whom King George VI made a member of the Order of the British Empire after the Second World War, was the Conservative MP for Toronto's Greenwood riding from 1955 until 1969.

DIED: John W. (Jack) Sanderson, 56, a Canadian aviation pioneer elected to the Aviation Hall of Fame in 1963, in Victoria. A Royal Flying Corps pilot during the First World War, Sanderson became the most powerful figure in Canada's aircraft production program during the Second World War. In 1950 he established First Industries, one of the first Canadian firms to manufacture complete aircraft and export them worldwide.

DIED: Jackie Wilson, 48, a rock 'n' roll singer from 1963 until 1975 when he suffered a heart attack and lapsed into a coma. He resumed partial consciousness a year later but died last week of complications from pneumonia in a Mount Holly, N.J., nursing home. Wilson, who began singing professionally with the *Dominos*, is known for such hits as *Lately*, *Thunderbolt* and *T.S. Be Striptease*.

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The cost of job-making

When Finance Minister Marc Lalonde brought down his maiden budget last April, he announced plans for the Special Recovery Program—a \$2.4-billion public works scheme aimed at pulling Canada out of its worst recession in 30 years. To expedite the plan Lalonde indicated

that the government would give speedy approval to projects it had postponed for the past decade, such as the construction of bridges, airport runways, ships and ports. Eight months later, work on 21 of the 263 scheduled projects has begun. But critics' allegations that the government has pumped most

of the money into Liberal ridings in an effort to boost the party's sagging political fortunes have marred the overall success of the initiative.

The Liberals had originally billed the program as a job generator. Although federal officials had hoped to create 100,000 new jobs by the end of 1984, Economic Development Minister Donald Johnston, who now oversees the program's implementation, claims that it is impossible to determine exactly how many new jobs it is creating. Still, he contends that there will be "tens of thousands" of new jobs. Said Johnston, referring to the program: "We hope that it will attract the private sector to get on board and start making its own investments."

The government may not know the number of jobs produced under the program but it does unabashedly promote its effectiveness. Cabinet ministers fly from coast to coast to award the contracts. So far, the government has drafted more than 200 press releases. It has erected 164 large signs, at a cost of more than \$1,300 each, to publicize such major initiatives as the \$60-million upgrading of Montreal's Dorval airport and the \$250-million renovation of a

Canadian taxpayers will be paying for the Liberals' Special Recovery Program for years to come

warehouse at Toronto's Harbourfront. More than 400 more modest signs are posted at smaller projects sites, such as the new \$1-million air terminal complex at Kamloops, B.C., and a \$60-million biotechnology centre in Montreal.

Meanwhile, critics of the program claim that the majority of the projects will benefit Liberal ridings. As an example of partisanship they point to Cape Breton Island, the stronghold of three Liberal MPs, including External Affairs Minister Allan Rock. During one six-day period last May, the government announced plans to pump \$40 million worth of special recovery money for waterfront development into the economically depressed region. According to Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney, the island may soon sink under the weight of federal dollars.

For his part, Johnston claims that the criticisms are "red herrings." In defense of the "compartmental" nature of the program, he cites the case of a \$22-million forestry research centre scheduled for the Tery rising of York-Sudbury, which includes Fredericton. But according to Conservative MP Robert Harris,

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who represents the constituency, nothing has happened since last May, when Public Works Minister Romeo LeBlanc and then minister of the environment John Roberts announced the plans for the centre. Skid Howe, "There has not been one spoonful of earth removed to start the building. They have a sign ready, but that is about it."

Some 15 federal regions are indeed well-endowed with federal funds. Government officials say that they are reluctant to reveal how much money they have allocated. According to Robert Dawson, director of resource management, Quebec, with 74 of its 75 seats held by Liberals, has received the lion's share of the progress money (an estimated \$430 million). Ontario's share is substantial (an estimated \$301 million). The Maritimes were well cared for (\$208 million), but the western provinces, with the exception of British Columbia (\$197 million), did not do so well (only \$137 million in total). Declared Dawson: "You cannot have every single project perfectly regionally distributed."

Liberal concessions may not be the deciding factor in winning government contracts, but they clearly help. When a Halifax shipyard did not receive an invitation to tender on the contract for one of the six submarines the government wanted, the firm, Halifax Industries Ltd., appealed to Secretary of State for Defence Sir Gerald Bagen for help. The result was Bagen's intervention: the department did supply and install the submarine's electronic equipment, extended the building period, and Halifax Industries bid low and won the contract to build the submarine. Said Bagen: "I would think I would not be doing my job as a representative of the area if I did not make a representation so they at least had an opportunity to compete."

The Special Recovery Program's job-creating thrust is commendable in many respects. But starting will be easier said than done. The program's major scheme, beginning on Oct. 1, the federal government will introduce three-pronged tax increases, much of which will go to the recovery program.

The current nine-per-cent federal sales tax on most items, the 12-per-cent levy on automobiles and tobacco and the five-per-cent tax on alcohol will be increased by one, two and three per cent, respectively. The new rates will remain in effect until Dec. 31, 1980, and are expected to raise \$2.3 billion. But by the time the new taxes take effect, a federal election could have taken place. Because of the Liberals' long-term record of tax-cutting, the Conservative government would have to raise taxes if it does not remove them. Canadians may be paying for the Liberals' lagging for years to come.

—JULIE VAN DUSEN
in Ottawa.

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Max Ferguson's new contentment

Max Ferguson slammed the door on a 30-year career at CMC Radio in 1978, and his exit now had the feel of a Celine Dion bromeliad legend. Celebrating CMC management as "cheats, drinks and insecurities" in an interview with *Maxim's* (June 28, 1978), the master of a thousand aunts and voices retired at the age of 32 to his seven-room cottage in Cape Breton, N.S., accompanied only by two Amundas. But the loneliness of one brutal winter was all that he could take. "I was talking to the dogs for company," he recalls. "I could not have stood another minute of it."

Now back at CMC Radio as host of *The Max Ferguson Show*. For two hours every Sunday morning Ferguson plays an idiosyncratic selection of folk and ethnic records, adds commentary and aims broadside at his former sidekick, Allan McPhee. But his real joy is involvement in the CMC's internal politics. Said Ferguson, "It used to make me cynical and bitter. Now, not knowing my gossip, I am much happier."

It was not easy for Ferguson to stage his comeback. When he returned to Toronto in 1977 looking for work, a friend told him that his "name was mad" among senior managers at the CMC. He performed occasional radio sketches, but Ferguson earned his living over the next five years largely from public speaking engagements. In 1980 the CMC finally hired him back, but only for a nine-week summer stint. Then, a torrent of fax mail convinced the network to extend the show. One Nova Scotia listener wrote that the show gave him "tearful pleasure. By god, there is hope for the CMC yet (but not very damn much)." With a 46-per-cent improvement in ratings over the previous year, his ten are secure again. Said the show's executive producer, John Burke, of Ferguson's appeal: "It is like he is talking right to you. That is what radio should be—an audience of one."

Ferguson, now 53, has not compromised his dream of an alternative lifestyle. He makes the 390-km round trip from his semi-secluded property east of Toronto to the city only every two weeks to tape two shows at a sitting. The rest of the time he spends at home. He keeps busy chopping wood, growing vegetables, baking bread and pies, and keeping house for his second wife, Pauline, 35, a journalist at CMC Radio's 4th Avenue, whom he married in 1975. "She thinks I must be bored, but I'm not," said Ferguson. Now that he has returned to the airwaves, life, he said, "is perfect."

—GILIAN HICKMAN in Toronto

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COLUMN

The perils of the living room

By Charles Gordon

With your new vcr, you're going to be able to watch quality movies in the comfort of your living room for the rest of your life, or at least the rest of the warranty. You can even—gosh, you can even buy a numbered limited edition of *Rainer Werner Fassbinder's* 150-hour epic, *Berlin Alexanderplatz*, for only \$400 (U.S.). It says so right here: "Want to come up and see the numbers on my videotape, sweetheart?" you cry as you ponder a future fall of classic film banned at you in your very own home.

Not so fast. Did it ever occur to you that the day of quality movies may be ending and that you hastened that end when you bought that videotape machine? There is a theory—cruel it is to Vincent Carby of *The New York Times*—and it goes like this:

TV is invading (all theories about the landscape of civilization begin with TV being invented.) Movie theaters suffer. They try to cut costs. They take their great big open house of a theatre and divide it into three, six or 12 smaller theatres. Dis-hard managers are disappointed by the small screens, the lack of grandeur in the theatre. They are further put off by the chatter around them, the chatter being made by people who grew up with television and think a screen, no matter how large or small, is something to talk to.

The theory continues: Movie-house executives of male drive the managers back into his house where, as luck would have it, the vcr has been invented. Now he can watch the movies on his own, slightly smaller, screen with no hassle.

But wait. Out in Milwaukee they see what is going on. They know that people at home will chatter along with the movies. They know that people can hit a switch and fast-forward through long and talky scenes, the scenes in which ideas sometimes occur. Milwaukee knows there are big bucks to be made in the videocassette business, but only with movies that work on the home screen.

And what sort of movies are those? Fast-paced, less talk, no scenes longer than 25 seconds, sex and violence taking place at more frequent intervals. The plot has logical places built in, places to hit the pause button and go make a sandwich. The movies begin to look like...uh-ah television shows. You spend your \$600 on a vcr so you can rent television shows from your neighbor-

hood department store. Gosh.

Well, at least you're comfortable in your living room, right? You could always watch some sports. You tune in at the middle of the second quarter and Al is taking it. "As I said at the top of the show," he begins. Top of the show? You thought this was a game. But look around. There's a time out, for an apparent reason. There are players with their names printed on the back of their uniforms. Halftime arrives. There is no marching band. In its place is a series about the coach's home town also 10 commercials and many videotape highlights.

No one knows where the marching band has gone. It may be somewhere around Hollywood looking for work as a movie soundtrack. It may be in Ottawa, or the Liberal back benches. Whatever, it is not part of the show.

The claim, made by those who actually visit the stadium, that the

'All of the theories about the imminent demise of civilization begin with the TV being invented'

marketing hand will exist is not a relevant point. With the growth of revenue derived directly or indirectly from those who watch the game at home, it will soon not matter whether anyone goes to the stadium or not.

Some experts think that day has already arrived, among them the executive director of the National Football League Players Association, who had this interpretation of lucrative contracts signed last year by the NFL and the TV networks: "A team could conceivably make a \$4-million or \$6-million profit without selling one ticket."

League owners deny that, but it does not seem probable. It gives the occasional thinking with sports that has already taken place, tinkering that is done with the home audience, not the stadium crowd. It reminds—the strange hat that one baseball owner tried to introduce for the convenience of the viewer; drape an orange park that had a brief tryout in professional hockey; baseball's designated hitter, the camera-conscious behavior of fans who paint their faces, wear electric hats and brandish bebop hats for you in

your living room. The fans at the stadium are becoming prigs in a show that is not intended for them. The people for whom it is intended find, feet up in the living room, that it is not as good a game.

Sports, movies—neither both are cheapened when relegated for the living room. And it does not end there. Look at politics. The great speeches, the elegant, tub-thumping efforts that thrilled political audiences for years are gone. They don't work on television. In your living room, a man wearing his arms and yelling looks silly. You want to fast-forward him. At political conventions the wine backroom guys are not content with the arena's reaction to their boy's rousing speech. They want to know how he looked on TV.

When television first came to the House of Commons, the political parties began getting messages from their media consultants: the thumping of desks was disturbing people in their living rooms and frightening the postmen. Soon, desks thumping had gone the way of the balanced budget, and members of Parliament were clapping their hands, like members of the radio audience.

Heeding was no good either. MPs were told: It just sounded like noise. And members were wondering why was there so much coughing all the time. Soon, coughing and breaking will go the way of desk thumping, and that will be too bad, since vigorous debate is what Parliament is all about. It is not television's idea of what Parliament is all about, however.

Sports, movies and politics may be of no concern to you, but what about religion? More and more people are attending religious services on television, and more are sure of that, you are also aware that the most popular form of TV religion is not the evangelical United, Anglican or Roman Catholic service. Those are too slow-paced for television. TV religion is religion with lots of action—no chains, yes, but plenty hymns that sound like failed Broadway show tunes, like clips of the pastor's travels to some warm pagan land and lots of healing. Healing makes terrible TV.

Technology is wonderful, but we may pay a high price for living life in the living room. Quick! Everybody out of the house.

Charles Gordon is a columnist for the Ottawa Citizen.





Lévesque and wife, Catherine: the party is already unpopular, and the independence issue is dividing it internally

CANADA

A dream fades in Quebec

PREMIER René Lévesque once described 1982 as the worst year of his political life. He broke the patriation of the Canadian Constitution (without a Quebec veto over changes) and determination of the province's economy among the serious political problems that he had struggled with that year with little success. Then, in 1983 the premier's fortunes plummeted again. His popularity continued to sink, and the Parti Québécois government became embroiled in a bitter dispute with 200,000 public sector workers over pay cuts. More embarrassingly, Gilles Celogre, a PQ back-bencher who helped found the party with Lévesque in 1969, went to jail for contributing to the delinquency of young girls. Now, after a two-year slide, the future of Lévesque and the PQ appears to be growing even darker. Last week he faced growing criticism within the party over his leadership in a debate intensified over the best strategy for fighting the next election.

The party is deeply divided over how to deal with the issue of independence

for the province. That single question could split the PQ, which is already trailing the Liberals and their recently retiring leader, Robert Bourassa, in popular support. The latest polls show that Lévesque is still dropping in popularity; a recent survey by CROP Inc. of Montreal, for one, suggested that Quebec voters now prefer Bourassa for premier over Lévesque by a three-to-one margin. And with the PQ under fire from the Liberals, the French-language press and disgruntled public sector union, Lévesque will likely face a rough reception at the party's general convention next June. Even his promise last week to resign unless the PQ wins on the independence issue did not satisfy many hard-core separatists. Pierre Bourgault, one of the founders of the independence movement, said "Lévesque has built himself so many escape routes that it is impossible to tell where he is standing. He will not take us any further [toward independence]. For that, we will have to have a new leader."

At the same time, party members

have been pressing Lévesque to shuffle his cabinet and remove his personal staff to allow fresh representation from the party's grassroots. And some PQ supporters have hinted that the premier should consider resigning if he is unwilling to make the needed changes. "We, the rank and file, are frustrated and ignored," declared André Boivin, a 36-year-old school administrator and the president of the powerful Montreal Centre region, a group of 17 key ridings. "We may have to start discussing the need for very strong changes at the top on our own," added Boivin.

Boivin and other party members believe that the cabinet and the premier's 30-member staff, both weighted with veterans from the first election won in 1976, have insulated Lévesque and clouded his vision. "Lévesque is in a very difficult position, I fear," declared Pierre de Bellefeuille, a PQ back-bencher. "He has a very narrow group of advisers, and he is not receiving a wide enough variety of opinions."

But Lévesque has largely ignored these demands for change. "There is a

bit of panic because there is nothing more dramatic than being very behind in the polls," he said last week. "Some are more nervous than others. It worries me, but not to the point of panic." Still, it is clearly time for political fresh thinking. In the past year the government has angered many powerful interest groups in the province but failed to convince Quebecers that its well-publicized plans for economic recovery will actually create more jobs.

Lévesque has added to his own misfortunes. During a visit to France last summer he suggested that independence will become more likely when Quebec's current population of senior citizens—most of them supporters of federalism—begin dying off. And last December he revealed that Italian President Sandro Pertini did not want to visit Ottawa when he comes to Canada next summer. That indecent revelation angered and embarrassed the Italian premier, prompting him to return a ceremonial passport which Lévesque had given him. Mistaken like those named Lévesque is the title "Wandering Biliby" from the Opposition Liberals.

and a suggestion from a *Le Presse* columnist that Lévesque "not be allowed further than Ogunigun, Ma" (a favorite variation word of Quebecers) when travelling abroad.

As a result, the PQ was unable to rise above a rating of 20 per cent in popular support in 1983. An internal poll taken late last year confirmed that low standing. It revealed that, if an election had taken place in 1983, the PQ would have won fewer than five of the province's 62 seats. The PQ party membership dropped from almost 60,000 in 1981 to a current total of about 340,000, and young Quebecers, who once gave the party its drive and nerve, are falling away.

Lévesque has repeatedly promised to make Quebec sovereignty the main issue of the next election—and the main issue driving the PQ supporters.

Yves Bérubé, the president of the Treasury Board, started the debate when he said in a recent media interview that the party should temporarily set aside the independence issue. Clearly, the party would lose any election



Clearly, the PQ would lose any election unless it shows up the successful conservatives

on that theme, declared Bérubé. "To put this question forward, knowing that voters would respond 'no', would amount to simple masochism," he said. That statement angered Finance Minister Jacques Parizeau. He advised Bérubé to keep quiet about election strategy and his rebuke prompted other PQ members to attack Bérubé. Added Pierre de Bellefeuille, "I certainly do not subscribe to [Bérubé's suggestion]. We are not here to administer a province of Canada. If the issue of independence is not in the next election, I will not be there."

But PQ supporters on both sides of the issue agree that Quebec nationalists have, temporarily, lost some of its appeal. Said André Boivin: "An election in the near future [on independence] would be a disaster for major proportions for us." Henry Stiffler, an amphetamine member of the party's executive committee, added, "When you come down to it, I think Quebecers have just had enough change for the time being. They are saying it is time to slow down and go back to the old ways."

Still, without its independence option, the PQ's own future would be uncertain. The party has always been an uneasy coalition of conservatives and social democrats whose only common philosophy was a shared belief in a sovereign Quebec. In recent years the PQ has gradually lost its hold on the young, urban, college-educated voters it once cultivated, and gained a new, rural, older following. "When I was 20 years old, [the PQ] were the force of change," said Yves Jean-Pierre Charbonneau. "But so old today, it is we who are seen as the establishment." Other Quebecers believe that the Lévesque era—and the ideal of independence as an attainable goal—is almost over. "It is time to move on in other things," declared Dr. Marc Lévesque. Two years ago he was president of the PQ's Montreal Centre region.

Then, disillusioned with both the party and independence, he quit and wrote a book that severely criticized the party. He is now an the local treasurer of the Quebec Liberal Party, meeting regularly with a group of old friends who are all former independentists. Declared Lévesque: "The [Parti Québécois] has gone from being a movement for young people to a refuge for paranoiacs, political hacks and old ideas. I feel sorry for anyone left there who honestly believes in independence." Lévesque now has to convince many members of his own party that those changes are not true.

—ANTHONY WILSON/STAFF IN Montreal



Labor Minister Robert Lay conveying Hitler's greetings to Mussolini in Rome, 1942: a graphic reminder of a dark period in history

The mysterious trove of Nazi memories

Fred Schlessor of Golden, B.C., was one of the thousands of Canadians who returned home from overseas with souvenirs of the Second World War. And, like most of his fellow veterans, Schlessor soon consigned his mementos to an attic. But Schlessor's souvenirs of the defeat of Nazi Germany were far from ordinary: a remarkable collection of more than 3,000 photographs taken inside the Third Reich, plus more than 350 official Nazi documents and other German wartime memorabilia. The discovery last week of the Schlessor collection's existence created a stir across Canada, a graphic reminder of a dark period in recent history.

Schlessor, who died at 80 last August, spent most of his working life as a cook or a subordinate farmer. But from 1939 to 1946 he served in the Canadian Army, first as a dental corps cook and later, because he spoke five languages, as a corporal in the intelligence corps with postings in Italy and London. Before his return from Europe, Schlessor shipped a small wooden crate to his modest farm at Golden, near the Alberta border, and ordered his wife, Christina, not to open it. For almost four decades, the

collection—which includes a number of photographs bearing the stamp of Heinrich Hoffman, official photographer of the Nazi party—stayed in the attic, ignored except by mice who nibbled through the corners of the crate. After Schlessor's death, his daughter, Jahn Gaudin, former publisher of the weekly *Golden Gazette*, retrieved the crate, began sorting through the con-

tents and, last week, released some of the material to the *Master Jew Times Herald*, said Gaudin, who was uncertain whether her father's souvenirs were valuable. "There's so much material that it's hard just to digest it." How Fred Schlessor assembled it all way never be known, but the era it represents will not soon be forgotten.

—IAN ADJUTON in Golden, B.C.

Schlessor (front) and cabin; his wife and children were not particularly impressed



Captured Soviet spy (above); Gaudin congratulating Goring on 45th birthday, and (below) without display for home ordinary





Manro (left) and Akemak reviewing the subcommittee of a constitutional vision

Progress on native rights

The battle has been, by turns, both hostile and creative. Since Canada's political leaders hammered out an agreement on a new constitution two years ago, Indian, Inuit and Métis groups have fought to lose a full statement of their rights enshrined in the document. Then last week native leaders from across Canada, meeting for talks in Yellowknife with the federal and provincial justice ministers, agreed an armistice declaration of fundamental rights. But the meeting also generated a heated controversy over another development that could, in fact, delay a resolution of the constitutional issue by dividing the native peoples—two tentative agreements between Ottawa and northern natives that would "recognize" some of the very rights the natives are seeking to have constitutionally entrenched.

Officially, the purpose of the Yellowknife meeting was to decide on preliminary definitions of native rights as a basis for discussion at a federal-provincial conference of first ministers scheduled for Ottawa in March. But attention quickly shifted to the proposed settlements between Ottawa and native groups in the North-west Territories and the Yukon, under which the native peoples would receive millions-of-dollar settlements and title to thousands of acres of land in return for accepting the

abandonment of aboriginal rights to their larger, historic territories. Said Stephen Kakul, president of the Inuit Nation, which represents Inuit and non-Inuit Indians and the Métis of the western Northwest Territories: "It is hypocritical of the federal government to insist that aboriginal rights be enshrined when at the same time the Prime Minister has embarked on discussions at the highest political level to determine what are the rights of the aboriginal people."

Nor did the native leaders accept a suggestion by federal justice Minister Mark MacGillivray, who acted as confederate chairman, that the extinguishing of aboriginal claims in a fair exchange for settlements involving large amounts of money and land. Declared David Akemak, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, which represents about 300,000 treaty Indians in Canada: "The fact of the matter is that Canada and Canadians can never give us anything that is not already ours."

The proposed land claims settlements divided native groups that have claims to the same land and sequestered the Yukon government. The Inuit people were alarmed over the settlements initiated in December by the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (COPE), which represents some 2,500 Inuvialuit in the Mackenzie delta and northern

Yukon. That settlement, if formally accepted, would give the Inuvialuit \$352 million in cash over 10 years and title to 35,000 square miles of land as well as subsurface rights to specified lands and a 10-per-cent bidding advantage on government contracts in the area. In return, the Inuvialuit would give up any further claims to their traditional lands—which include territory historically used by the Inuit.

A second controversial agreement in principle was finalized last week by federal Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister John Manro, who flew from Yellowknife for an all-day meeting in Whitehorse with 12 Yukon land leaders. In return for extinguishing aboriginal claims, the agreement would give Yukon natives a 100-million-acre settlement and 7,000 acres of land along with subsurface land rights and bidding privileges similar to those included in the COPE settlement. Already alarmed over the terms of the core settlement, which affects part of the Yukon North Slope, the Yukon territorial government refused to sign, leaving the status of the agreement up in the air as Manro returned to Ottawa.

At the same time, the Yellowknife meeting did produce a formalization of the land of legal, economic, cultural and social rights that Canada's native peoples would like to see entrenched in the Constitution. A key passage in the draft statement declared that "the aboriginal peoples of Canada are entitled to sufficient areas of land and water, for their use and benefit, to participate in governmental management, and to appropriate resources as a basis for self-sufficiency and the development of native communities and economies and to institutions of self-government within Canada's federation." Native leaders feared that settlements extinguishing the aboriginal rights could render any such constitutional vision meaningless, but Yukon government officials wondered whether the opposite might happen. They pointed out that the proposed core settlement specifically states that nothing in the agreement would prevent the Inuvialuit from benefiting from subsequent constitutional guarantees. Willard Phelps, land claims negotiator for the Yukon government, expressed concern that in the future the native people could once again claim rights that supposedly had been extinguished. "There is no way that one can in good faith try to sell an agreement to the Yukon if it is open-ended," said Phelps. "Finally is a critical part of the package." That is a sentiment that the leaders of Canada's native peoples, in their long struggle for justice, wholeheartedly endorse.

—BARBARA SCHUCHT—In Yellowknife

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EPA's flight from Newfoundland

Newfoundland Premier Brian Peckford was in Tampa, Fla., for a short holiday and he missed the annual Shaper Bowl 1979 final when, on Jan. 18, Harry Steele, the tough-talking president of Eastern Provincial Airlines (EPA), announced that he was moving the company's headquarters from Gander to Halifax. The announced development roused Peckford's annual trip. It was also a severe economic blow to Gander, a town of 12,000, 307 km northeast of St. John's. After he returned to Newfoundland, consulting an EPA booking and taking on Air Canada flight instead, Peckford had no success trying to solve the effects of the move, which will cost 384 jobs and a yearly payroll of \$93 million at Gander. And last week federal Transport Minister Lloyd Axworthy refused his request for an inquiry into the pulchrit. The minister dismissed Peckford's contention that the relocation would cause the airline's service to Newfoundland to deteriorate. That Axworthy did order federal safety inspectors to travel on 66 per cent of the airline's daily flights. This decision, which has caused problems after a bitter pilot's strike last year might jeopardize passenger safety.



Steele's tension on the flight deck

The dual controversy left an embattled Steele fighting two levels of government. He denied that the mounting labor problems made EPA a safety risk and he insisted that the airline's \$8-million loss last year had forced him to leave Gander. With its headquarters and maintenance centre in Halifax, where most EPA flights originate, Steele estimated that the airline would quickly recover the 1980 losses.

But both Peckford and Gander Mayor Doug Sheppard rejected Steele's argument that Gander is too far from the airline's real centre of operations in Halifax. They—like Axworthy—argue that the airline's problems are a direct result of the four-month strike. Before a Canada Labour Relations Board ruling last May forced the company to release striking crew members, EPA laid off or demoted half of its 90 unlicensed pilots and replaced them with nonunion staff. Peckford and Sheppard concentrated on the financial problems threatening Gander. But Axworthy was more concerned about the effects of the airline's relocation—an argument that led to union and strike-breaking pilots working in the same cockpits. Declared Axworthy: "There is increasing concern that the level of tension that is occurring in the cockpit as a result of the labor situation is reaching a point where there could be problems." At

week's end that led to an air transport directive ordering the airline's administration to separate both groups of pilots on all EPA flights by Feb. 1. Despite the friction that now exists on EPA's flight decks, Axworthy stressed that Atlantic Canada's largest airline is currently meeting technical safety standards. The change alarmed Steele when he heard about the federal government's action, but he said that the airline would comply with the order. He admitted that there had been some tension between union and nonunion pilots in the cockpit but added, "On the couple of occasions when this has arisen, we solved it by showing pilots the door [kicking them]."

Even before federal safety inspectors started boarding his planes to conduct daily safety checks last week, Steele's relations with Peckford over the relocation issue were deteriorating. For one thing, Steele brusquely refused Peckford's offer to meet the provincial cabinet and explain the 800-km shift from Gander to Halifax. "There is no point in meeting with you in St. John's," Steele wrote in a blunt telegram. Steele's move strained the already tense relations between the two men. Earlier this year the airline owner angered the premier when he publicly criticized Peckford's attempts to win provincial jurisdiction over offshore oil and gas reserves. Still, Peckford claims that he has worked hard on EPA's behalf. He declared that he lobbied effectively in 1980 on the airline's successful application for a lucrative Toronto-Halifax route. As well, Newfoundland has provided \$1.5 million in subsidies, loans and loan guarantees to EPA since 1983.

But the premier has little chance of forcing Steele to change his mind. After his successful plea to Ottawa, Peckford withdrew a cabinet order that made EPA the first choice for ministers and civil servants travelling by air on government business. And one of the premier's aides said that private sector groups may want an economic boycott of EPA's services.

Sheppard, for one, is searching for an industry to fill the gap left by an airline that has been one of Gander's largest employers for 20 years. He sought federal help last week, but he returned from Ottawa with only a promise of support for a Gander company's application to refund Soviet jetliners. That could mean 60 new jobs and \$13 million in new business income for an airport that now services Communist Bloc planes from East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland. But until that happens, Sheppard, Peckford and the people of Gander will rely on qualities familiar in a province in which economic setbacks are common patience and hope.

—RONNIE WOODWORTH in St. John's

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Reagan addresses the joint session of Congress, infusing Americans with optimism while blasting Democratic policies.

WORLD

Setting the election agenda

By Michael Posner

Ronald Reagan delivered his 1983 State of the Union message one year ago against the backdrop of a shaky economy, high unemployment and with his own standing in the opinion polls low. But as the president's address last week to a joint session of Congress demonstrated, 18 months can give a mighty spin to the wheel of political fortune. On the eve of his anticipated bid for re-election, Reagan stood confidently in the well of the House of Representatives and declared, in what will probably become his campaign slogan, "America is back."

Reagan's speech, interrupted 42 times by applause, was crafted to accentuate the positive. Predictably, he cited the sharp decline in inflation (3.2 per cent in 1982) and interest rates (the about 10 per cent) and the rise in after-tax income. Characteristically, he included vignettes of U.S. enterprise and heroism and called for a new compact in space (page 46). And publicizing him- self for the campaign ahead, the char-

ismatic was statesmanlike, conciliatory to those at home and abroad, and laced with the president's hopeful, visionary themes: "Send away the hand-wringers and the doubting Thomases," said Reagan. "We will finish our job. How could we do less? We are Americans."

Many of the president's policy goals were familiar school-leaver, tuition tax credits and the stress on traditional family values. But he barely glanced at two foreign policy issues that have divided public opinion—the presence of U.S. nuclear in Beirut and the crisis in Central America. Each subject merited a single paragraph. On Lebanon, Reagan asked for patience and insisted, "We are making progress." In the case of Central America, he asked for money—specifically implementation of the Kissinger commission's \$5.4-billion military and economic aid package.

The president saved his most substantive proposal for the issue on which he is most vulnerable: the federal deficit. Just as he has turned to bipartisan commissions to wrestle with other sensitive topics—the IRS mess, social se-

curity, hunger—Reagan last week suggested a joint Republican-Democratic task force to grapple with the deficit. With agreement, he said, the panel might save \$60 billion over the next three years, what Reagan called "a down payment" on future cuts.

The Democrats' initial reaction was cautious. The bipartisan approach pleased Reagan with a face-saving way of raising taxes and cutting defense spending. But it also means that the Democrats would have to deal with one of the budget's largest and most contentious items: defense out-of-lining on entitlement programs such as pensions, Medicare and Medicaid. Clearly, too, the Democrats cannot afford to dismiss the suggestion out of hand, that would allow Reagan to depict them as obstructionists, unwilling to compromise for the nation's benefit. Yet if they acquiesce, they may end up forfeiting one of their best political weapons—an issue for the 1984 presidential campaign.

Thus, while Oklahoma Democrat James Jones called the idea "a step in the right direction," House Speaker

Thomas (Tip) O'Neill insisted that his party would want Reagan to table his own specific budget-cutting proposals. "We want to find out where he is," O'Neill declared. "He's running the government." Indeed, the State of the Union address referred to "the less contentious spending cuts," shoring loopholes and curbing government waste. But Reagan has stoutly opposed any plan for across-the-board tax hikes and adamantly defended his \$1.7-trillion defense buildup. Sounded House Democratic Majority Leader Jim Wright: "That's like saying, 'Let's argue on a football team, but you can't have a line and you can't have a kickoff!'"

The Democrats were also playing hard to get on Lebanon. With a majority of Americans now favoring the Maronite withdrawal, many now want to repeal the 18-month deployment they agreed to last fall. But while some Democrats would prefer to set a date for withdrawal, others do not want to curtail the president's diplomatic leverage.

If Reagan's message last week scored significant points, it was probably in the arena of U.S.-Soviet relations. He drew his heaviest applause with the line, "A nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought." Reagan also appealed directly to Soviet citizens, asking them to believe that he and all Americans were committed to peace. Official Soviet commentary dismissed his remarks as political posturing. But Soviet President Yuri Andropov gave an interview to the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* last week, in which he, too, left the door to renewed arms control negotiations at least slightly ajar.

Moscow may be pleasantly pleased by Reagan's tone, but Ottawa plainly was not. After three years of squabbling, the president renewed the debate over acid rain by doubling the Environmental Protection Agency's research budget—in effect, putting control measures on hold. Ottawa expressed its "deep disappointment," noting the scientific consensus in favor of strict curbs on sulphur dioxide emissions.

Overall, the president used his granitic address to sketch the outlines of his re-election effort. His announcement was expected in a brief five-minute statement on Jan. 29. He seemed silent on two alternatives—infusing America with his own mystic optimism about the future and blurring the edge of Democratic criticism. It was a forum in which Reagan habitually shines, and his performance last week was no exception. The White House proudly declared that calls ran 10 to 1 in the president's favor during the speech. As a result, while few experts were prepared to concede Reagan as early victory, no one doubted that the Democrats have work to do. ☐

THE UNITED STATES

A hard-liner at Justice

The man who resigned was a conservative and a close personal friend of President Ronald Reagan. The man who declined to accept the nomination carried the same credentials. But the departure last week of Attorney General William French Smith, 66—and the arrival of Edwin Meese II as his putative heir—was not simply a case of one loyal Reaganite replacing another. If his appointment is confirmed by the Senate, Meese is expected to take a far more activist approach to the president's law enforcement agenda—a prospect liberal Democrats fear. At the

same time, Meese, 52, is also an old Reagan confidant. He has used his privileged access to the president to steer the administration in often controversial directions. One goal, to dismantle the Civil Liberties Union, which offers legal aid to the poor, failed. Another, to refashion his Civil Rights Commission along conservative lines, succeeded. The Reagan, Meese has sometimes shared offices with off-the-wall underlings. He once called the American Civil Liberties Union the "criminals' lobby." And he caused a major furor in December when he suggested that many who stand in soup lines are motivated more by the free meal than by starvation.

A former public prosecutor in California, Meese has pushed the more punitive Smith into creating a nationwide drug task force and the president's nomination on organized crime. The subsequent resignation last week of the justice department's number one official, Edward Schachtel, was widely regarded as a sign that Meese intends to play a major role in making judicial policy. Under Smith, Schachtel ran the department's day-to-day operations.

What remains uncertain is the effect Meese's departure from the White House will have on the president. His responsibilities will now fall to Chief of Staff James Baker and presidential adviser Michael Deaver—both regarded by conservatives as only too willing to abandon



Meese is steering Reagan in often controversial directions.

Meese's stance. Meese, now White House counsel, will be leaving Reagan without a like-minded conservative ally among the senior staff—a vacuum that concerns many Republicans.

Smith's resignation took Washington largely by surprise. Although his tenure at Justice had been unremarkable, most observers believed that he would finish his term. However, his letter of resignation noted that he had been involved in Reagan's political campaign since 1966 and added, "I did not want 1983 to be an exception." Smith will confine his role to behind-the-scenes organization and fund-raising.

Reagan orthodoxy still, Meese will almost certainly share the cabinet council on legal policy, just as Reagan's conservative friend William Clark now presides over the cabinet council on national resources. And National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane is an able spokesman for hard-line views on foreign policy.

Any suggestion that Meese's move implies that Reagan is about to be taken captive by Chief Justice is mostly an illusion—one that, perhaps, is never so readily dispelled as it seems. Meese is a conservative president seeking re-election well.

—MICHAEL POSNER in Washington.

Expectations unfulfilled



Strougal greets Trudeau and son Sachs in Prague: reminders of the East-West split

Two days before Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau arrived in Czechoslovakia to carry his personal peace crusade to the Eastern Bloc, an article in Prague's *Volnost* Prose newspaper described Canada as a huge, advanced capitalist country with two major problems. One was that the United States "devour[s] virgin Canadian nature" with its acid rain. The second was that Canadians are indignant that Washington is setting its cruise missile on their territory. The analysis was more than simplistic. It pointed to an urgent desire on the part of the ruling Communist Party to distance Trudeau—the first Western leader to visit Czechoslovakia since 1928—from U.S. President Ronald Reagan's hard-line philosophy.

That same day Canadian diplomats made the same point about Czechoslovakia and its Eastern Bloc neighbors: they were capable of achieving independence from Moscow in foreign policy. That meant Trudeau had a better

chance of penetrating the Warsaw Pact than almost any Western leader, the Canadian officials claimed.

But the forecasts proved to be optimistic. From the outset, Trudeau's in-person travels far, fewer were clouded by the perception that Eastern Europe was little more than a last-minute substitute for the trip the Prime Minister really wanted to make—to Moscow. It rapidly became clear in Prague that the Canadians had expected too much from the Czech government. On his first evening, Trudeau proposed a toast to Czech Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal. Said Trudeau, "We both have a special responsibility, indeed a duty, as statesmen to do one utmost to reduce the

danger of war and the burden of the arms race." But the 59-year-old Czech premier replied, "We are carefully watching your peace initiative, which can do much to relieve the tension in our uncertain times."

It was far from a rousing endorsement. Indeed, after his first stop in Eastern Europe, the best that could be said of Trudeau's effort was that he had merely spread a chick in the East's diplomatic arena. But that was more than other Western initiatives achieved last week. The 16 NATO nations presented a no-point package of confidence-building measures to the Stockholm security conference. They included an annual exchange between the West and the Soviets on military deployment from the Atlantic to the Urals, advance notification of most manoeuvres, an exchange of observers among the conference's 55 member states, and fines to verify that troop movements are not threatening. The overall aim is "transparency"—letting the other side know what is going on in order to reduce tension. But Moscow claimed to detect transparency of another kind. The Communist Party newspaper, *Pravda*, said that the NATO plans were a plot by "American generals to impose strict control over the activity of the Socialist countries' armed forces."

Trudeau, too, was in a contentious mood on Saturday when he attended an international security conference in the Swiss ski resort of Davos. The Prime Minister was involved in heated exchanges with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam over Washington's reduction of its nuclear arms stockpile and then with former French prime minister Raymond Barre. The second disagreement came in a discussion about the credibility of NATO's policy of using nuclear weapons to repel an assault by numerically superior Warsaw Pact forces. When Barre defended the doctrine, Trudeau shot back: "Let me

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ask you about your credibility, Mr. Barre. Do you think the president of the United States will want to start the Third World War, an atomic war? Yes have to believe that we do have a serious fifty per cent." Barre replied that he had never even asked the question.

Still, the second leg of Trudeau's tour promised less discussion. His first stop this week was in East Berlin. Although the seething East German peace movement is under fire from the authorities, Canadian officials believe that Presi-



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dent Brian Mulroney's government is more open to Western thinking than its Warsaw Pact neighbors. His boss on the final stop, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, has already made it clear that he supports Trudeau's peace plan. As well, there was vigorous speculation in the Canadian press at week's end that Trudeau might yet arrange a last-minute visit to the Soviet Union. Asked by a reporter if he thought the Czechs would take his message to their Soviet allies, Trudeau grinned and replied, "You bring the message to Moscow."

If Trudeau was disappointed with his reception in Czechoslovakia, he had his consolation well. But the slow pace of progress can hardly suit a man whose political lifespan is being numbered in weeks—months at most. Trudeau gave no hint of his personal timetable last week, and a top aide said that he is still in the dark about the Prime Minister's intentions. But in Canada there were unmistakable signals that Trudeau is tying up loose ends. One was the announcement to the Senate of language Toronto Liberal organizer Leona Marston. Another indication was Finance Minister Marc Lalonde's announcement of his Feb. 15 budget date—a full two months before the anniversary of his last budget and seemingly out of the way of a spring leadership convention.

By coincidence, Trudeau's host in Czechoslovakia, President Gustav Husák, is also celebrating the 10th year of his reign. The two men held talks together for 90 minutes, and Trudeau later said about the meeting "We are like referees at a hockey match. We are telling the players to get back to the tables, get back to the game."

But, just 30 km from that outpost of civilization and commerce, Western observers say, lies a new Soviet satellite—now of many that the Warsaw Pact is building in response to Western European deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles. Czech spokesmen were evasive when questioned about their presence. "I am not informed about details," admitted Rihard Dvorak, a senior foreign affairs official and a former ambassador to Moscow. "I do not know where they are."

That statement was one of many reminders that the gulf between East and West remains wide. Canadian Embassy second secretary Jill Sinclair said that she had hoped that Trudeau would leave Czechoslovakia with an unequivocal endorsement of his peace plan. But the infamous Czech response did not surprise her. "They kept saying this is very positive—and that's all!" Sinclair said. Trudeau received an equally intangible response.

—CAROL GORR in Prague,
with Marc McDonald in Paris

MOBILCO

Unrest in a strategic kingdom

The trouble began four weeks ago in the Moroccan step of Marrakech, where students learned that they would have to pay a school examination fee of \$7.50. These sporadic bus fares, making their way through the strategic North African kingdom, are supposed to pay increases on basic necessities, including cooking oil, dairy products and one in the impoverished northern region of RH. Civilians battled government troops, whose response was brutal. One sportswriter reported that soldiers fired at a crowd from a machine-gun-equipped helicopter. Last week the rioting had subsided, but the conflict had had, claimed to 300 dead and hundreds more injured. But few Moroccans believe that the economically battered nation of 21 million will soon return to normal. Instead, one man injured in the street fighting said: "Now will come the repression and disappearances."

Indeed, when Morocco's King Hassan II made a televised address to the nation last week, he said: "Justice and the law will be on the last word." Mothers had used children as shields, he said. In future they would be treated "equal to adults." Then the king blamed the riots on a "foreign conspiracy" by Moroccan extremists and Marxist-Leninists. But Hassan also temporarily cancelled the price increases that have followed price roll-backs ordered by Tunisia's embattled President Habib Bourguiba on Jan. 6 after bread riots in that nation claimed 100 lives.

Hassan's action probably was only a temporary reprieve. Morocco is staggering under an \$11-billion foreign debt, accumulated by four years of drought, a soaring U.S. dollar and a 40-per-cent drop in the world price for phosphates, the country's principal export. As well, an eight-year war against Polisario guerrillas for control of the mineral-rich Western Sahara drains the government coffers of \$2 million a day. The impact on Moroccans has been devastat-



Hassan dazing splendor and de-vastating poverty

ing. At least one-third of the work force is unemployed, and nine million people live on less than \$1 a day. Completed one student in the southern town of Nador. "The poor die while the rich parade about in Moroccan cars."

At the same time, Hassan's absolute rule has stifled dissent. Although the ruler has called parliamentary elections for this spring, few Moroccans dare to criticize him in public. But many privately express outrage at the corrupt elite surrounding the monarchy. Not only that, but Hassan lives in crumbling splendor in a dozen magnificent palaces.

Hassan has maintained friendly ties with Washington. In 1982 he signed a 30-year accord allowing the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force to use Moroccan military bases in return, the United States had agreed to moderate Morocco's armed forces. Hassan has approved at least two assassination attempts, and observers predict that he will weather the present crisis. But unless he acts to ease the poverty among his subjects, he risks an explosion of unrest.

—DAVID HALLIDAY in Madrid

WHERE THE WORLD IS AT HOME™



Arafat with Mubarak, Israeli and hardline Arab states violently oppose an alignment

THE MIDDLE EAST

Hussein's new alliance

Only a few months ago such an alliance appeared to be impossible. But in the fast-changing world of Middle East politics, a new alignment of moderate Arab states began to emerge last week. Diplomats representing Jordan, Egypt, and forces loyal to Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat worked feverishly to lay the groundwork for a new partnership. Their aim is to reverse the long-standing enmities with Israel on the explosive issue of a Palestinian homeland, the backbone of a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement.

The new alignment of moderate Arab forces follows Egypt's Jan. 18 resolutions to the Islamic Conference Organization, almost five years after the group expelled it. By signing the Camp David accords with Israel, within days Egyptian foreign policy adviser Osama el-Baz indicated that Egypt, Jordan and the PLO would meet to work out new "forms of relations" for resolving the Middle East conflict. But even with the highly influential presence of a newly rehabilitated Egypt, the alliance faces violent opposition from Israel and from hard-line Arab governments.

The most intractable problem will be devising a formula for a Palestine as broadened that is acceptable to all three participants. Buz suggested that they may settle on an amalgam of three existing proposals which have failed to

satisfy both Arab states and the Israelis. The first, the Fez plan, adopted at the 1982 Arab League summit in Morocco, called for a Palestinian homeland in a loose confederation with Jordan. The second, the Bragan plan, proposed a measure of autonomy for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip but stopped short of full independence. The third was a vague proposal by France and Egypt based on United Nations docu-

Mubarak: a Palestinian homeland



mentations. However, at week's end it remained unclear just what measures the alliance will adopt. "We at present do not have in mind any peace initiative," Jordan's King Hussein stated.

The rehabilitation of Egypt in moderate Arab circles, allowing Cairo to play a leading part in the coalition, may prove to be a key factor in the success or failure of any new initiatives. But even if the members of the coalition themselves can agree on a formula for talks, the odds against success are high.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shimon last week quickly rejected the possibility of participating in any talks involving the PLO. Bad Shimon: "The government of Jordan knows well that Israel will not conduct any negotiations with terrorists." Two Israeli leaders Shimon's position. On the one hand, say diplomatic observers, he is disappointed that Hussein has chosen to involve Egypt and the PLO rather than talk directly to Jerusalem. When Hussein recalled the Jordanian parliament with its strong Palestinian representation in early January, Shimon expected that was a prelude to a private deal with Hussein. But Hussein quickly dashed those hopes by opening contact with Arafat. On the other hand, Shimon is determined not to yield territory on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

For their part, moderate Arab states seem opposed to any moderate alliance. Syria has forcefully maneuvered in recent months to strip Hussein's attempts to represent Palestinian interests.

At well, with the alignment of Middle East forces in flux, it is still not clear what role the United States will play in the proposed talks. Some Egyptian diplomats have said privately that the pressures of a U.S. presidential campaign would interfere with negotiations of Washington because involved. Others added that an American presence would be essential to pressure Israel into negotiating seriously.

Another major obstacle in the coalition's efforts may prove to be a lack of real support from other Arab moderate states. Morocco's King Hassan is preoccupied with internal dissent; Iraq is involved in a costly war with Iran; Saudi Arabia has so far resisted a direct role in the process which diplomatic observers claim is a result of blood-fueled Syrian retaliation as well as jealousy at Egypt's return to the regional stage. Against this background, the coalition's chances of success seem hazy. As the English-language Beirut newspaper the Daily Star summed up, the result of the moderates' search for a formula "could be a dangerous split in Arab ranks. Syria could fly."

—ROBERT WHITING in Jerusalem, with Kate Flint in Cairo.

FRANCE

Sniffing out a coverup

The plot unfolded like a cheap high-technology thriller, complete with revolutionary secret rings, an eccentric industrialist and a Belgian castle inhabited by a shadowy court. But the unlikely mix of suspense and farce first unraveled in the dead-end prose of a 148-page dossier's report detailing how the government of former French president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing was duped into losing \$100 million on a fraudulent oil discovery scheme.

Last week, as a French parliamentary committee pored over the report, the "sniffer plane" affair, as it is called, had set one half of France shaking

back, and embarked on a \$30-million prospecting trip—the first of many over a three-year period. In 1978 alone the French government paid \$22 million to Banassac's Belgian patron, Count Alain de Villegas, who rehabilitated and computerized his imposing Château de Rivieres near Brussels and bought an airport hangar in the capital for the company headquarters.

Officials only grew suspicious after two years when the sniffer, code-named Operation Aie, had failed to unearth anything except an known Elf-Aquitaine site. Then a skeptical industry minister, André Girard, asked a respected French atomic scientist, Jules



Investor Banassac, Giscard (right) dark hints of sinister political ramifications in a President of exploration scheme

Bonovitz, to test the mystery machine. But the test did not go as planned. Bonovitz's computer wires picked up the image of a straight ruler that Banassac had hidden on the other side of a wall. But Bonovitz revealed that he had bet the ruler into a V. Concluded government auditor François Giquel in a wary footnote: "This episode is an adventure that was to give Elf-Aquitaine mastery over the earth's hidden treasures."

Banassac's audacious credentials later turned out to have been forged. And even a routine investigation by the French government would have revealed other grounds for suspicion as well. In 1969 Bonassac claimed to have invented a "death ray." But it failed to perform lethally when tested for journalists. More important, South Africa had dismissed the sniffer-plane as a

hoax in the early 1970s after spending \$13 million.

New the satirical weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné* has discovered that Giscard and Barre tried to cover up the fiasco when they relinquished power to President François Mitterrand's victorious Socialist in 1981. They took their personal reports with them into opposition and ordered the remaining four copies shredded. The disclosure was timely and damaging, because the former president was planning a political comeback. Giscard responded by charging an investigation that Mitterrand was "seeking to maintain power by lying." But his indignation backfired. An opinion poll in the leftist daily *Le Monde* reported that 61 per cent of Frenchmen considered the oilfield had been lost. Other polls showed that most people believe the sniffer funds—funneled



into Swiss banks and still running—were secretly channeled to conservative political parties. Newspaper investigations have shown that a handful of the scheme's backers may have been connected to an international right-wing network with ties to Italy, Brazil and South Africa. But Banassac, who is now working in a laboratory in the Italian town of Vercelli, near the French border, denies any wrongdoing, and de Villegas, described by the sniffer as a "Bible crisy" but essentially honest, has disappeared. For his part, Giscard last week issued a warning which the government has apparently taken with the utmost seriousness. He, too, he remarked, possessed confidential files on certain political personalities in power that could ruin their careers. —MARTIN McDONALD in Paris.

Canada's Olympic promise

By Peter Gzowski

When Mort Sackis was back in Canada in the early 1980s doing a comedy show, someone asked what he thought of a country that had not yet been able to decide on its own flag. "It's a start," said Sackis.

Young athletes make poor laugh fuel good. The people around them may make up, as did the ABC television director at Montreal in 1976 who, just before a team with the curious appellation *Raincoats* was about to enter the stadium for the opening ceremonies, went to a commentator, or at least the badge—much to what athletes call people who wear badges and get free trips—who have bickered and fawned about the medals of the splendid team that will represent Canada at Sarajevo in the XIX Olympiad. But the athletes themselves, who have stretched their ligaments to the rescue of pain and their budgets to the most subtle variations of Kraft Dinner, are the stuff of heroes. Clear of ice, firm of muscle and, on the outside at least, as proud and sure of themselves as a squadron of falcons, they will march into the glow of the Olympic torch next week, and our hearts—or my heart at least—will flutter.

Shooting: From the crisp of the first puck, which comes, naturally, before the opening ceremonies, the athletes will get everything they have been striving for onto the line. The events, or the series of events, will be decided by fractions of time as short as a finger snap or will depend on the subjective opinions of judges from a hotel of official back-grounds. For two weeks, until the winner of the 50-km cross-country ski race (who will probably have a lot of trouble in his name) comes clomping across the finish line, or (does he hope?) until the last woman of the hockey final, we will be rooting them home, rising with fresh hopes, sinking with new disappointments. For us, it is two weeks of the winter's best (and some of the last of its) electronic entertainment. But for the participants, it's a time where life they will not know again, harkens in its elation and danger in the frustration (as anything real) life can offer, everything riding on the line of a toe pick, the out of an edge, the tremendous agonies of a trigger. Here's to them all as the

Games begin, to all who have a chance to be, in the rest of us may never have, the undisputed best in the world. And here, most of all, to the Canadians.

They do not go, to be sure, with the world's most venerable record. Since 1908, when the first Olympiad was held at Chamonix, France, there have been



Lake Placid opening: glow of the torch

332 gold medals awarded. Canada has only won 11, five of them at hockey (since 1920, when hockey was included in the Summer Games). In the dark, pre-Toronto days when a team at Prairie rink could throw some 600s into their duffel bags and trot out the Europeans by two converted touchdowns. In terms of medals per capita, these figures may bear comparison to,

say, the United States, with only 36 golds. But we are a Nordic nation. We lead the league in shovelling snow and installing block heaters. And the Mediterranean form of Italy, for example, have won only two fewer gold medals than we shovelling champions. Finland, Sweden and all, has won 32.

We could do better. Comparisons to 60-year-old divides aside—and we've been improving as that adage has entered since the figures came out—we're a pretty healthy bunch, well-endowed and, if anything, too well fed. We play. More and more, we're learning to play with our wingers, threatening to the slopes, crowding the trails (4.5 million Canadians say they cross-country ski, and on some sunny weekends all of them appear to show up at my favorite resort), and at least driving our off-spring to Saturday morning practice.

Clang: Why we don't win more often at the sports we revel in is, surely, a matter of national conscience, and a harsh government that (although that, too, could be argued), but popular decision—or, perhaps, popular lack of decision. In Olympic years—and most especially right after the Games, when we resolve ourselves to improve our record, this bumper drinks announcing that they will bit the wages—we pretend to care. We don't. Between Games, when more serious nations are streaming their gifted youngsters into specialized training, coaching their coaches and redesigning their logos, we forget about the glory. We don't want it—or we don't want it enough. Four years away from Calgary we are scarcely better prepared than we were before Montreal. It is not in our character. The grim, methodical programs that has brought athletic excellence and Olympic gold to the Russians: world is as far beyond us as the gang-bro, flag-waving ferret of the Americans. It is a sense that far transcends the legions of the Olympic oath, we are a nation of amateurs.

In the winter of 1979 I went to Moscow with one of the parade of not-quite-good-enough hockey teams we now send to international tournaments. I was coaching minor hockey at the time and I was given a chance to watch a practice in the Red Army boys' system. As I had expected, I was overwhelmingly impressed. For an hour and a half before breakfast, while their parents, harnessed from the arena (a lot of Canadian coaches would like but do not dare to do



with their hockey fathers and mothers, huddled in the cold, a couple of dozen 11-year-old prospective Kharmelovs whined through snots and well-planned drills.

The truth was, however, that the Red Army club was one of only six in all of Moscow. Kids without access to its elite teams played skateshooting on the frozen courtyards of apartment blocks. In Canada they would have played house league in Toronto, where I was coaching, there were more 11-year-olds there than there were boys at the Red Army practice. If that kind of enthusiasm is the price of international respectability—and was yours, they, watching the nation of a team we will face at Calgary—then I for one would rather not play it. Winning isn't the only thing, playing is.

Better: This is not, I hasten to add, a loving nation's advance excuse. The last of our gold medals in a history of mediocre performance. Some have been predictable: Barbara Ann Scott, who won our first individual gold, went to St. Moritz in 1948 already demonstrably the fastest figure skater in the world; Murray Green, the most ferocious competitor this country has ever produced (with the possible exception of Maurice Richard), had won five World Cup races in the season of her Olympic gold (and silver) and was clearly the star to beat at Grenoble in 1968. But others have come as bolts from the manifesting. The bailed team of Vic and John Elstery, Doug Anakin and Peter Kirby was recognized by its peers in 1964, but its gold medal, also at Innsbruck, came to most Canadians as a bigger surprise than the fact that the same year they had also beat the fastest skater in the world, Northern Dancer.

So who knows for this year? The skiers, both men and women, are the strongest we've ever sent—and, perhaps, the exception to the rule that we don't seek out our elite and prepare them. Steve Podkorski is dying. The hockey team, I suspect, is better than it has shown us, and exquisitely prepared. And somewhere in the galaxy of bright, attractive, gifted, dedicated young people assembled on the following team is almost certainly a name that is as unfamiliar to us now as Anne Heggström's might have been in 1960 but whose achievements at Sarajevo will also go into the record books and our collections of happy memories. They'll win a prize of our esteem, not because of it. But that will be all right too. The Olympics are, after all, their moment.

Peter Gzowski is the host of CBC's *Radio-Canada*, author of *An Unlikely Line* and from 1982 to 1983 he was the editor of *Nacnews*.

Rehearsal in Sarajevo: best in the world



Swiss bobsledders at Lake Placid in 1980; jumper Burt, an excellent Canadian team and hopes for the Calgary Games in 1988

COVER

The quest for Sarajevo gold

By Hal Quinn

Next week the sleepy industrial city of Sarajevo in central Yugoslavia will become famous for more than an assassination. Since Gavrilo Princip shot Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, the Archduchess, on June 28, 1914, the city of 400,000 has been little more than a historical footnote. Now the world is coming to Sarajevo for the quadrennial February circus that is the Winter Olympics. Fourteen hundred athletes from 50 countries, spectators and journalists from all over the world, 50 television cameras from ABC and CBS complete with 300 km of television cable will provide a two-week celebration of sports on ice and snow. From Feb. 7 to Feb. 19, Sarajevo, their guests and an estimated 2.5 billion television viewers will be held captive by an unprecedented 20½ broadcast hours of the XIV Winter Olympics. And once coast to coast, Canadians will cheer and agonize over the exploits of the nation's best-ever Winter Olympic team.

For a nation that endures, or enjoys,

at least four months of winter each year, Canada has performed surprisingly poorly at the Winter Games. Since 1924 the nation has won only 34 medals in the Winter Games. The best showing was the seven medals Canadians won in 1932 at Lake Placid, N.Y. That year Canada's hockey team won the gold medal while figure and speed skaters collected five bronze and one silver medal. Canada won four medals at the 1960 games, three in 1968 and 1976 and only one silver and one bronze at the 1980 Olympics.

Revelations: But over the years Canadians have had their moments. skiers Anne Heggtveit and Nancy Greene, slayer Barbara Ann Scott and the 1964 bobbed team, which overcame all odds to win the gold. This year the 38-member team at Sarajevo has the best potential in 22 years to fashion a Canadian triumph. The list of brave hopes includes figure skaters Brian Orser, Barbara Underhill and Paul Martin; ski jumper Burt Balan, speed skaters Gaston Reucher and Sylvie Daigle, and downhill skiers Steve Podborski, Gerry Stevenson and Lucie Gauthier.

It is not only the excellence of the

Canadian team that has heightened the nation's interest in Sarajevo. In 1988 the world will come to Calgary. Last week the ABC television network paid a record \$300 million (C\$31) for the American rights to broadcast the Calgary Games, underlining the fact that the winter spectacle is a TV show. No other sporting event is so enhanced by TV or better sells the home media.

Spectators at most of the Games' events see only quick glimpses of the competitors—a skier holding a track at 78 mph; a bobbed hurtling along an ice wall; a ski jumper soaring into the sky. But at Sarajevo and Calgary the cameras will follow skiers over every mogul, slide through each tortuous turn, ski jumpers from the lip of the hour-stopping ramp to their graceful landings. With the record number of broadcast hours from Yugoslavia and the unprecedented three weekends from Calgary, North Americans may witness as familiar as Europeans with some of the more exotic events.

In 1924, 28 years after Baron Pierre de Coubertin resurrected the Olympic ideal, France staged the first real winter counterpart to the Summer Games

Each leap year since, the Games of snow and ice have grown to rival the sun-splashed spectacle—in excitement, in multimillion-dollar budgets and in spectator interest. The sports themselves are still largely European in tone and interest—even after the chaotic 1980 games at Lake Placid, N.Y., most North Americans could still not explain the difference between a biathlon and a luge course.

Jean-Claude Killy's incredible mastery of the mountain at Grenoble in 1968, when he won all three men's alpine skiing gold medals, not only made Killy a millionaire but introduced the thrills and glances of skis, giant slalom and downhill racing to North America. Eric Heide's first speed skating gold medals at Lake Placid heightened interest in the long strides of athletes skating in circles only until the Games' closing ceremonies. And when Ye and John Eriks, Doug Anakin and Peter Kirby won the four-man bobsled gold at Innsbruck in 1964, Canadians became with slightly increased pride about conquering an alien sport.

Still, every four years luge competitors and ski jumpers, cross-country and alpine skiers, ice dancers and sliding athletes have their moments of glory. But it will take more than exclusive television coverage of the Sarajevo and Calgary Games for the other athletes to rival the Games' most glamorous stars. Figure skaters, the first winter athletes invited to become Olympians, still capture the imagination and the hearts of the world.

Shining: More than any sport, figure skating—singles, pairs and dancers—grazes the Games with beauty and grace. For the estimated 25,000 spectators lucky or wealthy enough to attend the Games in person, the skaters' swirling magic is a fixed spectacle, a pageant of dramatic movement set to stirring music. For the all-important television viewers, the figure skaters' moves become television stories for ever-expanding technological virtuosity. And it will be on the figure skating stage in the glacial, copper-shaded Viteb complex in the center of Sarajevo that Canadians will have their best chance for 1984 Olympic medals.

Of the 34 medals Canada has won, 10 belong to figure skaters. Among the country's most glorious winter moments, Montgomery Wilson's bronze in 1932, Barbara Ann Scott's gold in 1948, Barbara Paul and Bob Wagner's gold in 1960, and Karen Magnussen's silver in 1972. And beyond medals, Donald Jackson (1932) and Todd Crockett (1976) are legends in the sport. At Sarajevo four-time Canadian men's champion Brian Orser and pairs champions Barbara Underhill and Paul Martin will lead the third-largest contingent of

skaters after the United States and the Soviet Union.

Orser, the defending world bronze medalist, is a favorite for a silver medal. If he can move up from his eighth-place in figures at last year's world championships, Orser could challenge for the gold medal that has virtually been conceded to American Scott Hamilton. Orser admits that "things are going in Scott's favor, but he is confident that if he takes fourth or fifth in the figures and 'six both skated our very best programs, they would almost have to give the gold to me because my program is more difficult."

Underhill and Martin are solidly in the top three in world rankings. "There is no doubt that the Soviet duo, Elena Valova and Oleg Vassiljev, are a technically great pair, but they are not exactly the most artistic pair in the world," Martin told Maclean's. "Neither are the East Germans [Sabine Baez and Tamara Tietzebach]. As far as judging, we realize that it is one of our heads."

Inevitable: For drama, glaze and artistry, no Olympic event matches ice dancing, and no dancers match the genius of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean of Great Britain. Torvill and Dean are so far advanced beyond their peers in interpretation, precision, degree of difficulty and innovation that the rules of ice dancing have been altered to accommodate their art. Rivaling injury or illness, Torvill and Dean will win the ice dancing gold at Sarajevo. If so, they will be the first non-Soviet to win since the event was added to the Games in 1976, capture hearts the world over and then sign a professional contract for a stupendous \$2 million.

Unlike figure skating, there are no clear favorites in alpine skiing. Although a medalist in downhill victory, Garndisch-Partenkirchen last Saturday was a major bomb on the eve of the Games, there are almost as many potential medalists as there are competitors. In part the reason is the absence of Sweden's dominant Ingemar Stenmark and Liechtenstein's darling, Hanni Wenzel. Between them they won four gold medals at Lake Placid in 1980. But only both new ski so professionals at the World Cup circuit and are ineligible for the 1984 Games.

Most ski racers, including members of the Canadian team, earn six-figure incomes from finishing the laps of their ski equipment manufacturers at the bottom of the hill. But most of their money is held in trust until they retire as a new generation of the Podborski and the United States' Phil Mahre are able to retain their amateur status. Stenmark and Wenzel have opted to be paid directly. The reality of alpine skiing is that the best racers are entirely professional, with the exception of the East-



Photo by AP/Wide World; photo by AP/Wide World



Canada against the U.S.A.: an American challenge about amateur status, as the Soviets rule

COVER

era Europeans. Eastern Bloc athletes do not receive much from manufacturers because their interests do not translate into equipment sales at home.

With Stenmark out of the action, the favorite in the men's slalom is Mahre, the bailing three-time World Cup champion from Valais, West. He was, however, Swiss, made in the giant slalom. Phil Mahre has not skied well this season and will be pumbed by Swede Bengt Fjallberg and Stig Strand, Austrian Franz Grabner and Luxembourg's Paul Frommert.

In the giant slalom, World Cup point leader Prentiss Sarbergren is the greatest threat to the Mahres. And Hansi Wenzel's brother Andreas shares the family trait of doing well in the races that really count. The chief unknown in the slalom will be how much the Yugoslavian fans can inspire their three excellent skiers from the southern province of Slovenia. Began Krstaj has won four World Cup slalom events while Boris Strel and Jane Pranko have won giant slalom races.

The glimmer boys of the alpine world, the downhill racers, will find the course on Mt. Titlis relatively easy after the steep runs on the World Cup circuit. Canada's only realistic hope for a gold medal in the Sarajevo downhill will be the veteran Podnorsk, the 1982 world champion who last week stopped a two-

year winless streak at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in West Germany. At Lake Placid Canada had Podnorsk, who won a bronze, and Ken Read in medal hopes. This year, with Read retired and the swift and daring Todd Boucher suffering from knee injury problems, Podnorsk will likely be the only top-rated Canadian to challenge the powerful Austrian and Swiss downhill teams. Last week's victory at Garmisch, where he also won in 1981 and 1982, followed a 20th-place finish at Kitzbühel on Jan. 31, and suggested that Podnorsk was as fit as he was determined to win at Sarajevo (he and the other downhillers had one more warm-up, this weekend at Cortina d'Ampezzo, before the Games). Podnorsk's 13-year career is nearing its end, and he would clearly lose another Olympic medal before he retires.

Powerful: But the competition promise to be fierce. The Austrian downhill team includes the second- and third-place finishers last week at Garmisch—Karin Kneissl and former Olympic champion Franz Klammer, holder of 25 World Cup victories—as well as reigning World Champion Hansi Wenzel. For their part, Swiss racing fans expect powerful performances from downhill stars Eric Zachner and Franz Heinzer, both of whom have been skiing strongly all season. As no other happens, weather conditions may determine the order of finish. If the course is tough and icy, as it was during a 1982 pre-Olympic trial

Garmisch-Partenkirchen Canadian team members Laurie Graham from Inverwood, Ont., Karer Stenmark from Kitchik, Ont., and Ilmar Hiltunen from Princeville, B.C., are all capable of golden performances.

Explosive: The contest between the soaring big jumpers should be more clear-cut. Before this year's World Cup season, Canada's Florin Balazs and Finland's Matti Nykänen dived alike in the skies of Europe and North America. But this season a virtual unknown has exploded onto the circuit: East Germany's Jens Wöhring overnight has become the most to land at Sarajevo. Last week's jump at Garmisch, Wöhring has won five and finished second in another. Balazs is capable of winning a gold, but he and Nykänen may have to settle for a dual over the silver medal.

The men's (cross-country) racing and biathlon events have always been dominated by the Soviet Union, Scandinavia, East Germany and Czechoslovakia. The lone exception could well be American Bill Koch, 38, who was the only U.S. male medalist at the last world cup in 1976. Koch is favored for a gold in the men's 30-km race. Italianen Paul Hildgartner and Norbert Haker have the best chance of breaking the East Germans' 12-year hold on the top title.

Canadians have not been a factor in the biathlon competition since they came first in 1964, and they have little chance

in which they placed second, the always aggressive Podnorsk may still find his medal dream.

Roughly 50 km from Mt. Titlis and on the opposite side of Sarajevo is Mt. Bjorana, site of the women's alpine competition. The women's races will also be fairly contested. With Wendie out, Switzerland's most popular athlete, Krista Henn, 31, may well win the slalom and giant slalom. But challenging Henn will be Polish twins Dorcas and Magdalena Tiklo and U.S. favorite Tamara McKinney.

The women's downhill is even more difficult to predict. Skiers from Czechoslovakia, Austria, France and the United States are all capable of beating the early favorites—Maria Wallner of Switzerland, Irene Egle of West Germany and Canada's Gerry Serretsen, who finished a solid fifth last week in Garmisch.



for a medal at Sarajevo. The two- and four-man bobsled teams from Switzerland and East Germany will likely stage a dramatic race for the gold. But the Soviets and East Germans developed new sleds, incorporating shark fin-shaped wings last fall. The development has signaled a new era in the sport, and the Swiss and other teams may not catch up in time for the Games.

Dispute: Similarly, Canada's hockey team has not been a serious challenge since the gold medal victory in 1962. In fact, this year's team may be notable more for what happens off the ice than on. U.S. Olympic officials are challenging the amateur status of four Canadian players, a dispute that must be settled before the two teams face off on Feb. 1 in the Olympics' first game. The Canadian Olympic Association (COA) has ruled that players are eligible for the Olympics if they have played 10 or fewer games in the National Hockey League. The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) approved the COA ruling. As the teams played 11 final pre-Games exhibitions in West Germany last week four players had signed professional contracts—Mario Tremblay, Mark Morrison, Dan Wood and Don Dietrich—but only two have actually played in the NHL (Morrison 30 games and Dietrich 5). Team U.S.A. has threatened to protest the eligibility of the players if they take to the ice next week.

Alan Eagleson, the principal international hockey negotiator for Hockey

The hills at Sarajevo: a city of the centre (below): joy and sadness



Canada and an adviser to the Olympic team, last week revealed that U.S. 1988 gold medalists Gus Morow and Mike Brennan had signed pro contracts before the Lake Placid Games. Still, the dispute may be academic. The world's best, the Soviet Union's Olympic hockey team and the Czechoslovakian national team will be at Sarajevo, and at least the Canadians and Americans probably will face off for the bronze medal.

Canada does have gold medal chances on a different ice surface—the speed skating oval. The golden speediest may have arrived for Canadian speed skater Gertjan Beender overboarded by Eric Heiden at Lake Placid. Beender needs three wins to win a silver medal. But now that Beender has retired, Beender has a chance to win a haul of medals. Still, Beender will face formidable competi-

tion—World Cup 500-m champion Aleks Kurovov of Japan, intarsa Soviet skater Sergei Khlebnikov and his countryman Pavel Pogor in the 1,000 m, and the powerful 18-year Van Der Delft of Holland in the longer distances.

Twilight: The Olympics will have their share of thrilling victories and crushing disappointments. And after the thousands of empty Olympic bottles are returned and Sarajevo returns to wintry normalcy, the medal event will likely show the Soviets, East Germany and Americans at the top. For Canadians the satisfaction may well be that the team won more medals than it did in 1982.

For the Olympians, after years of training and dreaming, the Games will have passed too quickly. For the harried engineers, clerks at overbooked hotels and house translators, the Games will have lasted too long. For weary-eyed television viewers around the world, they will have been a thrilling, but exhausting, spectacle. When the athletes gather on the night of Feb. 29 for the closing ceremonies, they will remember the 13th Games with a mixture of joy and sadness. For many, it will be their last, and perhaps only, Olympics. For others, the Sarajevo Games will be merely a beginning. Those Olympians and fans the world over who seek their rights on 1988 and Calgary.

Webb Stone in Orillia, Ont. Alan Eagleson in Toronto. Prentiss Sarbergren in Toronto. Prentiss Sarbergren in Toronto. Prentiss Sarbergren in Toronto.

The nation puts its best feet forward

The Canadian Olympic team at Sarajevo is the best the nation has ever produced. Not just a gathering of hopefuls, the athletes in red and white are internationally recognized as world favorites in figure skating, speed skating, alpine skiing and ski jumping. The Canadian team has its stars, and they are supported by a strong cast of athletes who, if not quite ready to win medals, will boost their world rankings. Some of Canada's likely medal winners.

Brian Orser

At 22, the four-time Canadian figure skating champion readily admits that his biggest handicap at Sarajevo will be nerves. A slender but muscular skater known for his facility with difficult leaps, Orser has regularly slipped up on the compulsory school figures—skating precise variations of the figure "8"—in world competitions. And even now that he has mastered the technique, Orser remains tense about his figures because of past failures. The son of a Penetanguishene, Ont., soft-drink bottler, Orser prepared for the upcoming competition by asking Canadian skating judge Norman Bowden to sit on his daily practices and "to give me that pressure." At the same time, Orser hopes that the Olympics will be less nerve-racking than competitions devoted exclusively to skating. Said Orser: "Skating will not be in the highlight so much. It is just one sport, a lot of other big stars will be there."

Orser's gitten, notable even by skating standards, are even more unusual considering his long preparation for stardom. He still wrestles with coach Douglas Leigh, from Orillia, Ont., who discovered his talent when he was only 9. Typically, Orser awakes at 4 a.m. to practice at least seven hours a day at risks in Griffla (where he lives) or nearby Barrie or Midland. That dedication has helped him to earn two competitive trophies—the difficult triple axel, a jump that consists of 3½ rotations in the air. In recent years Orser has added style and polish to his athletic prowess after intensive studies with American skating choreographer Cheri Keeler.

Born into a skating family—his maternal grandparents were amateur roller-skating dance competitors and older sister Mary Kay was both an amateur and a professional figure skater—Orser began skating at the age of 6. At 16 he left school to devote himself full



Orser; Podborski (below) glazes boys



time to his sport. The payoff may come in Sarajevo. Says the optimistic Orser: "I think second is very possible. Winning is not out of the question."

Steve Podborski

In the mid-1970s, when Canadian Olympic competitors were just beginning to be taken seriously, head coach Scott Henderson predicted that the national ski team's youngest developer—a 16-year-old from Toronto—might eventually turn out to be the best. Steve Podborski did. Now 26, he has claimed eight of the 16 Canadian men's World Cup race victories. During one string of 20 races—from Jan. 18, 1980, to Jan. 16, 1982—he finished in the top 10 every time. At Lake Placid four years ago his third-place finish made him the only non-European to win an Olympic men's downhill medal. He holds the same distinction for his 1982 World Cup downhill championship.

Now in his 11th year on the national team, nicknamed the "Orcay Canucks," and about to be married (on May 12, to television personality Ann Robson), Podborski has turned strongly that this season will be his last. After two winless years, he is back in top form. He was last week at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, West Germany, jumping to fourth place in the World Cup downhill standings. The only time a World Cup race has been run on the bumpy Sarajevo course was on Jan. 26, 1982. Austrian Gerhard Pfaffenbichler came out of the fog from a second-seed starting position to win, 21 seconds ahead of second-place Podborski. With each country limited to four downhill, Podborski's better may not even participate in the current Olympics.

After apparently recovering from another knee injury, and with injured teammate Todd Brooker's status uncertain, Podborski remains Canada's best bet in the downhill, which has become the nation's passion.

Barrie Buis

A year and a half ago ski jumper Barrie Buis was mildly surprised when two of his fans recognized him while he watched a junior football game in Orillia, his home town. "There could not have been more than a few hundred people there," he recalls. "A couple I did not know came up to me to say hello." A lot more people know Buis now—he has won 12 world jumping competitions

but his celebrity has never matched that accorded Canada's downhill ski racers. Still, during the past few years Buis has been the most consistent Canadian skier in any discipline. In 1980 and 1982 he placed third in ski jumpers' overall World Cup standings. Last year he almost caught up with 1982 World Champion, Finland's Matti Nykänen after trailing him by a huge margin at midseason. Buis's 12 World Cup victories are only three fewer than the total for the entire men's downhill team. He is just 21 but, remarkably, this will be his second Olympics.

Buis combines an unassuming self-confidence and understatement that approaches naiveté. When he broke his collarbone in midseason two years ago, he returned to jump after only three

weeks of convalescence. But he denied that it was extraordinary. "After giving me surgery for three weeks, the doctor was convinced that it was healing, and we were willing to take a chance on it." Of his sport, which sends him hurtling down a 30-m ramp and 175 in down the hill, he says: "Everybody gets thrown off by the camera angles on TV. They make it look like you are 40 or 50 feet in the air when it is nowhere near that high."

Gerry Sorensen

Four years ago Gerry Sorensen, a muscular athlete from Kimberley, B.C., was written off as a World Cup ski racer. In November of 1979 he tore cartilage in his left knee when he was attending a national team training camp in Barje. As a result, he missed that entire ski season and was not invited back to camp the next year. When the 1980 Winter Olympics took place in Lake Placid, N.Y., he was skiing in Western Canada

after reoperation and skidding itself. It was not until she was 10 years old that she ventured onto the slopes of North Star Mountain, five minutes from her home in Kimberley. A town of 1,000 in the Kootenay Mountains, Kimberley is also the home of two other adventurers but rarely celebrated mountain people: Pat Morrow, who in 1932 became the second Canadian to climb Mount Everest, and Art Twomey, who scaled to within 3,900 feet of the same accomplishment five years earlier.

Sorensen has called on all her natural gifts to achieve her downhill triumph. Without exception, the courses she raced were long ones, where leg strength and gliding ability served a true test and where "a high four factor," as her coach, Gerni Chapuisat,



Sorensen leaps from the gate: the best racers are entirely professional, but their money is held in trust until they retire

works of convalescence. But he denied that it was extraordinary. "After giving me surgery for three weeks, the doctor was convinced that it was healing, and we were willing to take a chance on it." Of his sport, which sends him hurtling down a 30-m ramp and 175 in down the hill, he says: "Everybody gets thrown off by the camera angles on TV. They make it look like you are 40 or 50 feet in the air when it is nowhere near that high."

But, despite Buis's public dilemma, national jumpers team coach Wilbur Dakke said he has an "overwhelming" will to win. "There's the ability to seem out all the peripheral events and

as a member of the B.C. ski team. At 21, she was already considered too old for a developing international career.

But when the fearless Sorensen came third in the downhill at the 1980 Canadian championships, the national team coaches had to reconsider her. Now 25 and with four World Cup victories and the World Championship in her credit, Sorensen is the best hope to win Canada's first Olympic medal in women's downhill since Lucille Wheeler captured a bronze at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, in 1956.

A quiet and uncomfortable in the green as Steve Podborski is relaxed and athletic, Sorensen came late to both pop-

ular recognition and skidding itself. It was not until she was 10 years old that she ventured onto the slopes of North Star Mountain, five minutes from her home in Kimberley. A town of 1,000 in the Kootenay Mountains, Kimberley is also the home of two other adventurers but rarely celebrated mountain people: Pat Morrow, who in 1932 became the second Canadian to climb Mount Everest, and Art Twomey, who scaled to within 3,900 feet of the same accomplishment five years earlier.

Barbara Underhill, Paul Martini

When five-foot Barbara Underhill began skating with six-foot Paul Martini seven years ago, there were murmurs that the lopsided partnership would never work. But 20-year-old Underhill and Martini, 22, became the Canadian champions for four successive years, as



Underhill and Martini; Boucher: 'No one there is no way I should lose'

COVER

well as bronze medalists at the 1983 world championships in Helsinki. Despite the difference in size, Underhill, of Oshawa, Ont., and Martini, from the Toronto suburb of Woodbridge, have become known for their graceful teamwork and their ability to execute dangerous moves like the triple twist, in which Underhill flies through the air for three spins.

The two skaters began perfecting their skills after they met in 1977 at a summer skating school where they trained with Loren Shog, their long-standing coach. While their technical expertise is undeniable, they have earned some of their performances at international competitions with stumbles or by making simple moves in their repertoire. But they did achieve two en-

cor-dre programs at Helsinki last year. Since then they have chosen not to participate in any international events. Koplansky, who is captain of the skating team: "We thought we would inject an element of anticipation into our Olympic appearance." The pair would have participated in the Canadian championships earlier this year, but Underhill pulled a hip-sprain in her ankle last month. The injury has healed, and the two are now ready for Sarajevo. Says Martini: "We are back at doing all the throws and lifts."

Their Olympic program—compère with those aquatic lifts and

risky throws—will be performed to Gene Krupa's *Swing, Swing, Swing* and George Gershwin's *Piano Concerto in F*. Whatever the outcome at Sarajevo, Martini says that he and Underhill have already accomplished everything they wanted in amateur skating and will "very likely" go professionals after the Games.

Gaetan Boucher

At the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics the 26-year-old Boucher's silver medal in the men's 1,000-m speed skating race was Canada's best finish in any event. Eric Heiden, the man who best him and everyone else in all five Olympic races four years ago, has retired. Now Boucher predicts, "This time there is no way I should lose the 1,000 m and maybe the 1,500 m too."

The part-time marketing student at l'Université de Montréal has left little to chance in his quest for an Olympic gold. Last March, when he was training indoors in Montreal, he fell and crashed into the end boards, fracturing his left ankle in three places. For a month he wore a cast and was unable to walk. Boucher needed the six-week rest, but that did not stop him from repeatedly flexing his knee to keep his left thigh fit and exercising his right leg on a stationary bicycle. "Maybe that is not so good," said Boucher about his obsessive workouts. "But after skating for six or seven years you can get motion after not training for two weeks." Added Andre Dawson, technical director of the Canadian Speed Skating Association: "Gaetan does not wake up a day in his life and not know exactly where he is going."

Indeed, after nine seasons on the national skating team, Boucher may be heading directly toward an Olympic gold medal. His recuperation from ankle surgery was evident in January when he defeated Pavel Pogoda, the Soviet world record holder, over 1,000 m twice in consecutive days in Daegu, Switzerland. Canada and the Soviet Union both used the meet as their final Olympic trials. After lamenting two at-



tempts, Boucher said, "I was disappointed." Later, Canadian coach Marc Tremblay said, "Gaetan's 'come 10th and say, 'That's okay,' and they keep coming 10th. They have to work—work more." He is entering his third Olympic Games. Boucher is prepared to live up to his own tough standards. His ambition, he says, is "to go to the limit. I feel I am in a position to do it this year. If I do not win, at least I have tried."

An international galaxy

The international field of Olympians is an impressive one ever for the Sarajevo Games. Traditionally, the Soviets, East Germans and Americans were the bulk of the medals and they are likely to again over the next two weeks. And while each Olympics has its share of dramatic upsets, surprise heroes and losses, a few of the athletes and teams at Sarajevo are almost prohibitive favorites. Some international stars to watch:

Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean

She was an insurance clerk and he was a pallbearer on the night shift when they started dancing to a pair in Nottingham, England, nine years ago. The only time ice dancers Torvill, 36, and Dean, 35, could practice together was

which included interpretations of circus feats such as tumbling and walking the high wire, may be disappointed when the two begin their Olympic dance in Sarajevo in Martinis' *Bohème* by resting on their knees, locked in an embrace, for a full 29 seconds.

Vladimir Tretjak

He is revered at home as a sportmaster, which is the term Russians reserve for only the very best athletes and coaches. He is admired in Canada for his dazzling skill and unflinching good manners. And at Sarajevo he is in quest of a hockey medal in the men's 500-m Winter Olympics. He won gold in 1972 and 1976 and a silver in 1980 when a young American team skated to an amazing



Hamilton with U.S. teammate Elaine Zayak; Soviet goals Tretjak: Real-footed athleticism at the pinnacle of sport

at 3 a.m. It was during those early morning hours that the day worked on the superlative style that drew an unprecedented perfect 6.0 for artistic impression from all nine judges at last year's world figure skating championships in Helsinki. That score—the first perfect score for a skating event anywhere in the world—gave Torvill and Dean their third consecutive world title, and they are expected to sweep the Olympics, although their choice of music and slow-moving routine is controversial. Fans who were dazed by the pair's Helsinki routine, "Blossom,"

upset. At 32, goaltender Vladimir Tretjak is at the pinnacle of his game and the superlative style that drew an unprecedented perfect 6.0 for artistic impression from all nine judges at last year's world figure skating championships in Helsinki. That score—the first perfect score for a skating event anywhere in the world—gave Torvill and Dean their third consecutive world title, and they are expected to sweep the Olympics, although their choice of music and slow-moving routine is controversial. Fans who were dazed by the pair's Helsinki routine, "Blossom,"

has said he will retire after Sarajevo. But a year ago, in Montreal, he said that he would like to finish his career with the Montreal Canadiens. He later retracted the comment, but the Canadians were sufficiently excited to assure his suit, rights and are now hoping to negotiate his return from Moscow. The likely response: "Myet."

Scott Hamilton

The diminutive, seemingly unshakable U.S. figure skater did not grow up and the most auspicious circumstances. As a child in Bowling Green, Ohio, Hamilton, now 25, suffered from Steiner's syndrome, a disease that inhibits normal digestion and growth. It was only after Hamilton discovered skating at the age of 8 that his illness remitted. Still only five feet, 3½ in., and 134 lb., Hamilton has had an impressive string of victories that makes him a safe bet for a



gold medal at Sarajevo. Since finishing fifth at Lake Placid in 1980, Hamilton has won all but one of his competitors, including four U.S. and three world championships. He believes that his strength lies in his technical ability, but he is known for a keen sense of theatre as well as fleet-footed athleticism. Now living in Denver, Hamilton trains for almost eight hours every weekday, plus four hours on Saturdays. In true Olympic style, Hamilton trained hard to overcome physical adversity and he has finally succeeded in putting American male skaters back in the spotlight.



National Hockey League President John Ziegler (left), Lyle Renshaw, Tyler Andersen: the parties—and now—go on

Canada's here from Tehran, Ken Taylor, 48, the nation's casual general in New York, is the star of a round of farewell parties by Big Apple luminaries. But Taylor has not yet said goodbye either to New York, where he may remain for another six months, or to politics. Although Ottawa has assured him that he can become ambassador to Italy, Taylor is considering a number of other possibilities, including offers of safe seats from both the Conservatives and Liberals and business opportunities. "It is possible I will leave the government," Taylor admitted last week, with an expression as serious as his answer. "Everything is up in the air." This week American Society Chairman David Rockefeller will present him with a medal for distinguished service in Canadian-U.S. relations. The parties go on, but so does time—and Taylor may have to break his code of silence soon if he does not want it to pass him by altogether.

Eric Andersen, 48, one of "the new rock types" in the mid-1980s, has played countless clubs, pubs and coffee houses on three continents for the past 28 years. Despite a recent foray into rock music, he retains his folk singer image. Andersen likes it that way—usually. In Toronto last week, Andersen joined the *Master Diskette*, a local rock band with whom he has recorded some new material. **Defiant Rock (Prod. Piano)** *Columbia* discovered far beyond the difficulties of shedding an image when a *Globe* and *Mail* reviewer mistook him

for Andersen and scathingly concluded that Andersen should stick to what he did best. Said a dismayed Andersen: "I have just never heard of anything like that before." But fans will be hearing more about Andersen. He has turned his hand to writing—poetry and a book of short stories—encouraged by friends *writes* Layton and Leonard Cohen in the case of Cohen. Andersen says that the move is the return of a favor. "It was the reason he began to write songs. After he heard me, he said he felt that he could do it too."

According to **Yves** **Noah**, being a teen star and sex symbol is not always an advantage. The 22-year-old French star catapulted onto centre court after winning the French Open title last year, becoming the toast of Paris and attracting hordes of voracious gawkers. In December he fled to New York in search of anonymity. This week Noah will be in Canada to play



Noah: volleyball proplets

Canadian **Gaston Michélate**, one of the world's best 65 players and the first Canadian male to be invited to the *Wolsey Light Challenge*. Now he too has been lobbied into the limelight. Said the 21-year-old university student: "I am not comfortable with that sort of attention." Michélate, beaten once by Noah last year, anticipates a tough match but he says that Noah's mercurial mo-

ture could work in his favor. Said Michélate: "If he is having a bad day, you could beat him." That certainly would serve his current goal: to become one of the world's top 65. Shyness does not preclude ambition.

The British and U.S.-dominated video market is due for a surprise. Canadian **Doug Bennett**, singer-songwriter for *Dead and the Dog*, has temporarily traded his battered fedora for the jaunty silk scarf and padded shoulders that symbolize his metamorphosis into a West Coast video mogul. Bennett, 33, has just completed two new entries in the video wars to promote tears by the *Neapolitan* and *Images in Vogue*. *Just Our Move* Time stars the hard-nosed *Hampton*, fronted by raucous *Darby Mills*. The video called "the *Bar* Reynolds approach," said director Bennett. "We got to blow up a car and machine-gun a bar." Last for *Love*, on the other hand, is a black-and-white cartoonish drama featuring the *Salon* which *Frank Flynn*'s stepson took place after his 1980 death. Despite the recent furor over video violence, Bennett insists that the videos are "good fun." But he doubts they will replace its potency to music. Said he: "It's your imagination that makes the drama happen." ◇

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A cautious bargaining year



Ford plant: Fryer (below) disputes a record year for contract talks, but work stoppages are likely

By Ann Finnlayson

Perhaps to create an independent forum in which unions, business and government would co-operate in battling Canada's economic woes are decades old. But after the worst recession in 30 years, the need was urgent for a joint body designed to lessen the adversarial climate of union-management relations, which caused Canada between 1980 and 1982 to lose more man-hours to work stoppages than any other Western nation. Last week Shirley Carr, executive vice-president of the 90,000 Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), and Thomas d'Aquino, president of the 150-member Business Council on National Issues, jointly announced the creation of the federally funded Canadian Labour Market and Productivity Centre, with a broad mandate to drive into a range of economic issues.

The Ottawa-based centre, according to d'Aquino, will have an "arm's length" relationship with the federal government, which is providing \$57 million in funding for the first four years of operation. It will have a 46-member board of directors, including 14 non-voting representatives of the federal and provincial governments, which will prepare periodic reports and recommendations for the government on employment, productivity, technological

changes and job creation and retraining programs.

The council was formed at a time when it may serve a particularly useful role. Unions and management are preparing for the heaviest year ever at the bargaining table: a record two million workers—two-thirds of all private and public sector employees covered by collective agreements—will negotiate new contracts in 1984. And there is a growing consensus that the mood at the table this year is likely to be tempered by economic reality—which means that issues such as job security will continue to be more important than wage increases. Despite the high-stakes rhetoric surrounding last week's announcement, some predict that the spirit of co-operation could be short-lived if the economic recovery continues. "The spooks may not be particularly heavy this year," said John Fryer, president of the National Union of Provincial Government Employees, "but what you will see is a stiffening of attitudes on both sides."

For the past two years massive unemployment,

currently at 12.5 per cent, and recession-induced government and private sector restraint programs have weakened the unions' hand at the bargaining table and depleted membership rolls—and strike funds. In 1982 average wage increases of an estimated 5.8 per cent kept pace with a similar rise in the Consumer Price Index. But in 1983, the CPI outpaced many settlements and many workers received no wage increases as unions reduced their monetary demands in order to protect jobs and to defuse collective bargaining rights.

At the same time, employers have not been in any position to give large wage increases at the bargaining table. Although corporate after-tax profits rose by 56 per cent last year from 1982, they have not reached pre-recession levels.

For their part, union leaders claim that the recession has shifted attention away from other long-term potential problems for workers, such as job losses caused by technology, and they add that those difficulties will not disappear when the economy recovers. "We must realize," said Dennis McDermott, president of the CLC, "that things will never be as they were before. Many jobs will be gone forever. If, and where, despite government bargaining, Canada finally gets its second breath, we must be prepared to fight the new challenges that will emerge out of the ruins."

The bargaining calendar is unusually crowded in 1984 because government restraint programs, which directly affect most federal and provincial employees—anyway, determine the limits for all collective bargaining—have led to contract renewals being clustered together this year. Many unions, in both the public and private sectors, negoti-



tioned short-term agreements in 1982 and 1983 in the hope that an upswing in the economy would produce a more advantageous bargaining climate.

But that climate has not developed. "It's going to be extremely tough negotiating for the unions," said University of Toronto management studies professor John Granger. "Most workers will be lucky to get anything like the cost of living this year, and the unions that do will lose out on the work rules." Added Pierre Guethier, a labor analyst with a Quebec employers' lobby group, the Conseil du Patronat du Québec: "Employees in Quebec do not expect the unions to wage war on wages. Where it will be interesting will be on the question of fringe benefits contained in various agreements."

Unions and management spokesmen agree that wage settlements this year will be modest. In a report released last month, the Conference Board of Canada announced that its members expect wage settlements to average about 3.5 per cent in 1984—with little upward pressure for more substantial catch-up increases.

The focus of unions' demands, labor leaders agree, will be on the human and economic consequences of the fact that more than one Canadian worker in 10 is without a job. According to Fryer, whose Provincial Employees Union held a bargaining symposium in Ottawa last week to prepare for negotiations on behalf of 184,000 of its 340,000 members, "job security, now that governments are indicated that they are prepared to eliminate or seriously curtail as it will be absolutely the number 1 issue."

Unions proposals for job protection and creation vary widely. Robert Wilkie, Canadian director of the United Auto Workers, whose members accepted a reduction in paid holidays and compromised on wage increases in bargaining during the recession, has recommended a reduction in work hours "as an obvious way" to "approach the problem." In a recent report to the Macdonald commission on the economy, White proposed four-day work weeks, longer vacations and reduced hours for shift workers to ease unemployment.

But job sharing has recovered a recent recession in other quarters. "That's to hear gibberish about sharing and reducing working hours," said Grigo. "When wages are reduced proportionately to reduced working hours, all you do, at best,



Finance Minister Marc Lalonde, Labor Minister Andre Gauthier, of Quebec, Centre, cabinet

to speed unemployment." Many employees are cautious about such proposals as well. "What employers will not accept," said Peter Doble, industrial relations director for the Canadian Manufacturers' Association (CMA), "is shorter hours, more employees and higher wages."

Unions spokesmen themselves have attacked one plan for providing wage increases and protecting jobs that has gained adherents in the United States, in that two-tier system newly hired workers permanently receive lower wages than current employees. Clifford Brown, Canadian director of the Food and Commercial Workers Union, whose members recently accepted a setback in starting rates for some workers in Quebec, described the idea as "terrible." "It is wrong," he said, "to have two people doing the same job at different rates."

Labor's campaign to attack unem-

ployment is in direct conflict with government policies designed to fight unemployment. But there is a shared agreement that this year's round of talks will conclude without widespread disruptions. Nearly half of government employees are legally prevented from striking, and most private sector union leaders acknowledge that there is a cautious mood among their rank and file. Said Arthur Kruger, a University of Toronto industrial relations expert: "As long as unemployment remains high, workers cannot find other jobs during strikes, and they face the threat of being replaced."

For their part, CMA spokesmen Doble, "Employees know that unions are looking for protection, and most of them are prepared to consider their proposals. The unions know, too, that there is not much to be gained through strikes in this economic climate." But one consequence of relative harmony at the bargaining table this year, said Fryer, may be a resurgence of union militancy in 1985. As well, he said, "If the change continues to be tightened on government employees, which certainly seems to be the pattern, the militancy is going to grow on the side of the workers." Declared Gerald Larue, president of the Quebec Confederation of National Trade Unions: "Unions will of course take the position that if more money is created, it must be shared. Those problems make it clear that the newly created Canadian Labor Market and Productivity Centre will face continuing obstacles in its effort to ease Canada's poor record in settling labor-management disputes."

With this from Diane Gackovick in Vancouver, Suzanne Zhurav in Calgary and Jennifer Trevel in Montreal.



Overturning (center) and allies: IMF targets have been cast at a high cost

Mexico's minor miracle

For Jesús Silva Herzog it was a trip designed to collect well-deserved personal praise as well as cash. In Toronto last week, in the second stage of a North American and European fund-raising tour, Mexico's minister of finance was warmly received at a meeting on international trade sponsored by the Conference Board of Canada. The reason for the adulation since he assumed his position nearly two years ago, the Yale-trained economist has managed to pull back Mexico from the brink of bankruptcy by studying to a rigorous austerity program, buoyed out with the International Monetary Fund in 1982.

Mexico still has a foreign debt of \$60 billion, but international financiers consider it to be a star performer. The nation has met all her targets agreed to in return for a rescheduling of about \$20 billion in debt repayments last year. By imposing such exact controls, limiting wage increases and raising taxes and commodity prices, Mexico has reduced inflation to 90 per cent from 100 per cent and achieved a healthy trade surplus. But the cost of the program has been high, and Mexico may soon face economic and political problems.

The country has made credit to support it through 1984, but there is a possibility that it will face a series of recurrent crises as payments on the principal of its total debt come due between 1985 and 1990. In 1987 alone \$12 billion in principal comes due. Some experts also doubt that Mex-

ico will tolerate austerity indefinitely. Last year, in a nation in which the minimum wage is \$21 a week, the real income of workers fell by 28 per cent. As well, 50 per cent of the population is unemployed or underemployed and Mexican buying power has dropped 50 per cent since 1982.

The devaluation of the peso has also hurt a number of corporations. One of Mexico's largest breweries, Cuernavaca Montemayor, whose bankruptcy proceeding this month end it may become the first big company to be forced to close during the 14-month administration of President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado. The problem it owes international banks—including the Bank of Montreal—\$300 million, which it borrowed at 85 per cent to the dollar but which must be repaid at almost 150 pesos to the dollar.

Silva-Herzog remains optimistic. He said that inflation will be cut to 40 per cent this year, largely as a result of further reducing wage increases. As well, he expects that the economy will grow by one per cent after shrinking nearly four per cent last year. That is contingent on a number of factors, including stability in the price of oil (the country exports 1.5 million barrels a day). And as Silva-Herzog himself put it, "With half of the 75-million population living in poverty, you cannot have belt tightening for an extended period of time. Many people have no belts to tighten." —JAMES FLEMING in Toronto, with Ronald Buckman in Mexico City

Starting the new year with a deal

The presently named Year of the Rat begins this week on a peace-making note for Hong Kong's business community. A breakthrough in the laborious 10 months of talks between Peking and London over the British colony's future has helped calm nervous capitalists. The accord has also helped to lift the Hong Kong stock market in a sustained upward swing—the Hong Kong index has jumped more than 50 per cent since hitting a low of 790 last October. The reason for the optimism, Peking officials have indicated that a major compromise has been reached with London that would allow Britain to assume sovereignty over the colony but still permit it to remain as a democratic free enterprise entity when the British lease expires in 1997.

Last week, on the eve of a new round of negotiations in Peking, Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang optimistically declared, "It was unreasonable to resolve the Hong Kong issue in a manner acceptable to both countries." The breakthrough has been created by concessions from both sides. Recently Ji Pengxi, China's state minister with special responsibility for Hong Kong, outlined new proposals from Peking. China, he said, was prepared to create a "special administrative region" with only military and foreign policy issues to be taken over by the central government in Peking. Six decades after a period of 50 years after 1967 Hong Kong would retain its free market and its political and legal systems. For their part, the British have apparently relinquished their imperious demand for Hong Kong to remain under Whitehall's administrative control after 1997.

The agreement provides significant assistance to Hong Kong's economy. It is already bouncing back from a year in which political uncertainty had the Hong Kong dollar to record highs as currency flowed out of the colony. Despite that setback, Hong Kong recorded economic growth of an estimated five to six per cent in 1983, and further growth of seven per cent is forecast for 1984. Still, some disquieting rumors among Hong Kong's 5.5 million residents over China's promises to build a Hong Kong manufacturing. "Peking is now controlled by one faction. But if that faction changes, what happens to Hong Kong?" But Peking remains confident. "The British have recovered through Hong Kong. For now, at least, that advantage is clearly the most important consideration among Peking officials."

—BRUCE JEFFERIES in Hong Kong

Bargaining outlook for 1984

Industry	Employees
Air Transportation	13,000
Auto & Parts	44,000
Canada Post	61,000
Construction	290,000
Education	137,000
Food Processing	19,000
Food Retailing	190,000
Health Care	139,000
Mining	27,000
Pulp & Paper	40,000
Rail	79,000
Steel	32,000
Telephone	36,000
Federal Government	108,000
Provincial Governments	120,000

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A black eye for B.C. brokers

It was a risk on which even investors accustomed to gambling fortunes on gold futures had not counted. To the surprise of its employees and clients, Vancouver-based King Long Commodities Ltd. went out of business on Friday, Jan. 13. The only clue was that the business was closed was a padlock on the firm's front door and a note telling its brokers that their services were no longer required. As a result, King Long became the second of two controversial Vancouver brokerage houses specializing in Hong Kong gold futures market to shut down in less than a week. Just days before, Yearnone Commodities Ltd. had gone out of business in a more orderly fashion. But it was the closure of King Long, whose director disappeared, leaving investors facing large

its Contract Act in 1976, but it has not proclaimed it law. As a result, when government officials received complaints about the two firms, they were unable to act. According to David Edgar, assistant deputy minister of the consumer and corporate affairs ministry, government officials were reduced to "paying courtesy visits" on the two firms and "making suggestions that do not appear to have been implemented."

One salesman, who claimed to have lost nearly \$100,000 of his own and his clients' money in King Long, said that discretionary trading—moving money in and out of clients' accounts without consulting them—was common at King Long. For his part, Robert Bullock, the province's superintendent of brokers, declared that some very questionable



Bullock, investors suffered huge losses, but regulators were powerless

losses, that touched off a major controversy in British Columbia's investment community.

The losses in the King Long affair are high. Already one futures salesman, Andrew Dikala, has filed suit in the B.C. Supreme Court to recover more than \$75,000. Employees of King Long, which had headquarters in Hong Kong, have said that as much as \$2 million is missing from the firm's accounts. But most

attention focused on British Columbia's lack of laws governing commodities trading, which permitted the two closed firms to engage allegedly in practices that firms involved in other types of investments are not allowed to pursue. Declared Robert Granger, regional director of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada: "There kind of leverage houses are a black eye for the whole community."

The government passed the Commod-

practices may have taken place at King Long and Yearnone, including "leakage." That practice, which Bullock says is "one step above theft," involves a broker betting against the customer by accepting his money but not placing the order, so that the market will go down. When the investor wants his shares, the broker buys them at the cheaper price and pockets the difference.

RCMP investigators have numerous questions for the executives of King Long, but they have apparently disappeared. Meanwhile, the main concern of the B.C. investment dealers is to make certain that the laws governing commodities dealers are proclaimed quickly. That, they believe, might prevent similar episodes from happening again.

—SUSANNE FORRESTER
IN VANCOUVER

Some Tory budget dreams

By Peter C. Newman

Even as Marc Lalonde puts the finishing touches on what could turn out to be his last budget, chief Conservative economist (billionaire) Michael Wilson is pondering the threat of what he hopes will be the Mulroney government's initial fiscal thrust.

Like the rest of the 10 shadow ministers Wilson is keeping the specifics to himself, but from his musings during two lengthy interviews I had with him recently there does emerge a lively new approach to the country's growth problems. For want of a more sanctioned slogan, that approach—and probably will be called "Proactive Economics."

What characterizes this doctrine is the determination to push the decision-making process out from within the Ottawa bureaucracy—into the private sector. "There is an absolutely essential difference, for example," Wilson explains, "between government grants and federal support through a series of tax incentives and steps such as partially guaranteed bank loans. The Quebec government recently announced one program that calls for the recipient to negotiate bank loans, with the province guaranteeing two-thirds of the equity. That kind of plan provides a self-correcting mechanism and a much more balanced approach."

If enacted, that method would also all but eliminate the political bias in government assistance programs, which has long been a favorite Liberal area of influence. At the same time, it would make redundant a large slice of Ottawa's current bureaucracy—but not, Wilson insists, through massive firings. The idea is to move slowly as the transition takes hold. He hopes that using the banks as a neutral delivery system for government aid would also eliminate the built-in bias toward large corporations.

"I was talking to one company president the other day," he says, "who had just lived as an associate at a very high salary, and that man's total responsibility is to be the contact with federal departments. The result of the current system is that whenever a new batch of grants is announced the same firms keep reappearing; they're the only ones that can cover the costs of participating. Smaller operations can't afford to hire lobbyists because it's too big an up-front risk."

At his 9000, the new initiative is

rooted in the Mulroney party's free enterprise approach. "No one will condemn," says Wilson, "that a civil servant or a politician can make individual investment decisions more effectively or more intelligently than the risk taker who has his money on the line and is intimately involved in the community in which he is investing. Certainly, mistakes will be made by the private sector. But it is the nature of our system that if the private investor makes the mistake, he suffers the loss of his money. If a



Wilson: already evolving ideas

businessman makes the mistake, he rarely loses more than a night's sleep. No political bias will do so more than hand him up on the carpet. To criticize him publicly would reflect badly on the minister himself, so the mistake is brushed aside.

One of the side effects of the Wilson approach, if it is ever implemented, would be a more open communication with the public sector. Wilson claims that past methods of grants distribution have inhibited criticism of the federal administration in many of the other

activities. "If the power to withhold grants rests solely with the government," he says, "people will be cautious about what they say."

On some other, more specific issues:

1. Wilson has suggested giving tax holidays to corporations willing to invest in depressed areas. This could involve, for example, handing out 150-per-cent credits to companies putting growth capital into the Maritimes and doing away with regional development grants.

2. Wilson wants to "reform" the Foreign Investment Review Agency so that it is much more fair, open and efficient, instead of being subject to the whims of one prevailing minister after another. ("Multinationals are here to stay in Canada. Even if we wanted all of them to leave, the economic impact would be traumatic and very destructive. It is therefore important that we understand each other and attempt to develop a framework within which they can operate without antagonizing the best interests of Canadians. The framework must not be too restrictive but should be consistent with our overall economic objectives.")

3. Wilson would retain the National Energy Program but do away with the 56-per-cent back-in provision and smooth out its administrative roadblocks.
4. The pushing forward of such projects as all needs development in northern Alberta ("It would take some pressure off interest rates and provide a much needed boost to the economy.")

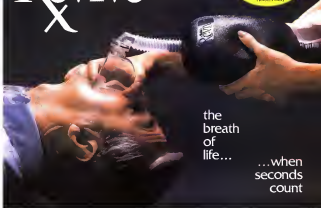
5. Wilson is convinced that the most urgent national priority should include a push of extra funds into research and development; the upgrading of human resources in terms of education and training a high-tech labor force; the nurturing of an entrepreneurial climate by encouraging the convergence of debt and equity financing; and the fostering of greater international competitiveness through highly focused export development schemes.

For the moment, all these schemes are merely ideas readily being evolved into policy options. "I've been fighting a rearguard battle with the Tory caucus," Wilson complains, "putting forward the notion that short-term job creation shouldn't be our total goal; especially if it means just throwing money at problems. The best way to create more jobs for Canada is to work out certain that this is the country where capital, both foreign and domestic, chooses to expand."

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The nurses and the 28 infant deaths

An expert analysis of the 36 unexplained deaths at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children released last November concluded that 28 of the deaths probably were caused by overdoses of the heart stimulant digoxin. The report, which the Ontario government commissioned from the prestigious Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, also named names: specifically, those of the members of the nursing team on duty about the time of the deaths in 1980 and 1981. But it was only last week that those names, which had been deleted from the public version of the report, came out for all to see. The Ontario royal commission investigating the deaths released the full report, and it revealed that nurse Rana Nolle, who once faced four first-degree murder charges in connection with the deaths but was exonerated at a preliminary hearing, was on duty around the time of 30 of the 38 suspicious deaths. But the report also revealed that Maclean's supervisor on Cardiac Ward 4A, Phyllis Traynor, was the only nurse who was on duty at the time of, or just before, all 28 cases.

The revelations brought immediate protest from both nurses' lawyers. George Strathy, representing Traynor, told Maclean's: "Even the Atlanta people realize there are significant limitations on their report. What worries me is that people will misinterpret the report without understanding the limitations the authors are pointing out." Said Nolle's lawyer, John Szozala: "The expurgated version of the report was fine, but the unexpurgated version should not have been released [by the commission]." He added that the evidence the commission has accepted and released might not stand up under the rigorous rules of court procedure. As a result, he said, the people named "would bear the stigma for the reasons of their lives and they could not even appeal because there would be nothing to appeal."

Another newly released section of the report said not only was the factor coinciding with the presence of particular nurses on the ward during the time of the deaths, from June 30, 1980, to March 32, 1981, For Traynor, the risk of



Strathy at a commission hearing. Traynor (below) is alone for the rest of their lives.

the specific deaths occurring during her shifts on the ward was 33.3 times greater than in her absence. For Nolle, the risk factor was 8.2. The report included risk calculations for two other team members, Sue Scott (7.9) and Marjane Christie (5.6), and it classified a fifth team member, nursing assistant Janet Brewster, who started to work at the hospital well after the suspicious deaths began, as very low risk.

In cross-examinations before the royal commission, the report's authors readily agreed with Traynor's lawyer that their findings did not imply guilt. One member of the Atlanta investigation team, epidemiologist James Bushnell, suggested Strathy's suggestion that someone could have been trying to frame Traynor by using her working schedule as a cover to commit murder.

At week's end, the commission, headed by Ontario Supreme Court Justice Russell Gauthier, decided to go into closed hearings this week for the first time since it began seven months ago. The public was to be barred while the commission considered whether it could hear

evidence that the head nurse of a ward opposite Ward 4A has already given to police. Meanwhile, the commission is also awaiting a decision from the Divisional Court of the Supreme Court of Ontario on whether Gauthier is entitled, as he maintains here, to name anyone in his report whom he believed administered fatal overdoses. Counsel for the Hospital for Sick Children told the commission that it expected the final report to point to the cause of the babies' deaths. But Strathy, Szozala and lawyers representing other nurses said the Ontario attorney general's opinion, and as a result Gauthier referred the same to the court.

Traynor and her nursing team are expected to appear before the commission soon to tell their side of the story. Traynor, who is on paid leave of absence and had a baby last summer, is scheduled to testify last. Nolle, who returned from her leave in July, 1983, to work on another ward, was to appear just before Traynor. It remains to be seen whether any of the testimony will help solve the mystery. Said commission counsel Paul Lasker: "It may be that at the end of our inquiry we still won't know the identity of the person responsible." But at least the public will have more information about what went on in Cardiac Ward 4A, he said, and that is what the inquiry is supposed to achieve. —Bonnie Talbot in Toronto

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The new race to colonize the heavens

By William Lawther

President Ronald Reagan made the final decision at a tense cabinet meeting last month to finance an \$8-billion U.S. space station. Budget Director David Stockman argued before the warring Reagan that the U.S. federal deficit would never go down if costly projects like the space station were approved. Dejected Attorney General William French Smith "I accept the compromise to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella made the same pitch when Christopher Columbus came to court." The president reportedly laughed and approved the controversial

space shuttle program coming to an end. NASA was faced with the possibility of halting its research and production efforts and losing thousands of jobs unless the U.S. government backed another massive space enterprise.

Certainly the space station project is massive by any measure. Last week NASA administrator James Beggs said that the station will be far more advanced technologically than any earth-orbiting structure ever built by the United States or the Soviet Union. He added that it will be a combination scientific laboratory, astronomical observatory and manufacturing plant. Initial plans call for a crew of seven-five men

whose flights will be needed to transport the hardware to build the initial station at an orbital altitude of 180 to 220 miles above the earth.

The end result will probably be a grid of 40-ft-long aluminum cylinders connected by tubes large enough to allow crew members to slide through them. There will be a docking port for the space shuttle and "garages" for small space vehicles and to transport astronauts to malfunctioning satellites. Several giant solar panel "wings" will generate electrical power, and the station may include a series of unmanned space platforms which will carry delicate telescopes and scientific instruments.

But movements of the crew might disturb.

The cost of the space station will be enormous. For fiscal 1988, Reagan is asking Congress for \$50 million just to get the space station onto the drawing boards. But by 1997, the annual development cost will be about \$1 billion a year. And if NASA meets the 1992 target launch, the total cost will reach \$8 billion. As new living modules, laboratories and factories are added, the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment estimates that the project could cost more than \$30 billion by the end of the century.

To help offset the cost, U.S. private industry will finance commercial space experiments and NASA will ask other countries—Canada, Japan and members of the European Space Agency—for contributions in return for using the station and sending their own experts to live there. Canadian scientists are eager to participate. A recent study by the Ontario Research and Development Council found that Canadian aerospace and high-technology companies are prepared to submit a total of 36 proposals to build hardware for the U.S. space station or use it as a base for manufacturing goods that are difficult or impossible to produce on earth. The state's Karl Dornbusch, head of the space station study, said that the federal government is likely to back Canada's participation in the vast project but that it has not yet committed any money.

Last month's announcement also signaled the start of a fast-track space race between the United States and the

Soviet Union to deploy the first permanent space station. U.S. intelligence reports indicate that the Soviet Union has a powerful new rocket poised to launch in February or March, and there is speculation that it could be taking the first part of a highly advanced new Soviet space station into orbit.

Still, the vast expanse of the station has already generated debate in the U.S. scientific community over its value. The National Academy of Science's space science board recently concluded that there was "no scientific need" for a station. Even the department of defense 1988, which has provided much of the financing for the space shuttle and for satellite research, is opposed. It fears that funds that were previously destined for military research in space will be siphoned off for the station. Said Robert DeLoach, head of the Pentagon's research and engineering section:

"There is no currently identifiable department of defense mission that could be uniquely satisfied by a manned space station." Scientists who are studying geological formations, the oceans, crops and weather patterns also fear that the station will draw research money from their projects. They argue that Earth study is best performed from satellites in orbit over the poles, not the equator.

Among politicians, Democratic Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin will be one of the leaders of the fight against the station. Said Proxmire last week: "We can ill afford to undertake this sort of investment on the scantiest of justifications at a time when we are cutting food-stamp assistance and telling Americans off the dollar bill in an attempt to come to grips with enormous budget deficits." NASA's Beggs countered that the station will have "payoffs" that include "new industries, new jobs, new products, new knowledge and a new spirit of national pride."

In fact, NASA has so far supported few concrete uses for the station beyond impressing the hope that scientific experiments conducted in the extremely low gravity aboard the station will yield revolutionary medical research. Critics insist that the medical research and development could be accomplished at a fraction of the cost using unmanned satellites and space platforms. Said Milton Kagan, director of the U.S. National Research Council's space applications board, a group of aerospace industry representatives who have studied industrial uses of the station: "The station can only be justified if it is done for national prestige purposes. That is far more worthwhile than for economic purposes." For Reagan, who is expected to seek re-election, the symbolic creation of a permanent U.S. space presence appears to be sufficient. ☐



Space centre concept: The station can only be justified if it is done for national prestige.

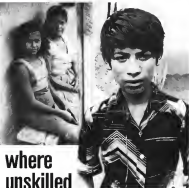
where that would be a permanently manned space station in orbit by 1992.

Reagan announced the project last week during a State of the Union address that was rich with nationalistic rhetoric and grand designs for colonizing outer space. Said the president: "Our progress in space... is a tribute to teamwork and excellence. Our best minds in government and academia have all pulled together, and we can be proud to say we are the first, we are the best."

The presidential approval came at a critical time for the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). With the development stages of

and two women—but that will be expanded to 20 or even 30 people as the station expands throughout the rest of the 1990s. The crew will consist of specialists in their respective fields, rather than traditional astronauts, and they will work three- to six-month shifts in space.

Instead of the giant spinning wheel in the 1968 movie *Journey to Space Odyssey*, the U.S. station is more likely to resemble a child's Macomber contraption. The space shuttle will carry the pieces of the station into orbit. As a result, no single component will be larger than the shuttle's cargo bay, which is 60 feet long and 15 feet wide 8 ft or eight



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The end of the long Nestlé boycott

For seven years the huge Swiss-based international food products firm Nestlé has had to endure a consumer boycott centring on an issue no less provocative as issue than motherhood itself. A coalition of mainly church-based organizations operating in 16 countries in North America, Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand accused Nestlé of contributing to the widespread malnutrition of babies in the Third World because the company markets an infant feeding formula. The Infant Formula Action Coalition (INFAC) claimed that in many countries the lack of clean water supplies virtually assured contamination of the formula. But Nestlé consistently maintained that its formula was a beneficial product, particularly for orphans who had no access to breast milk. Last week, however, the boycotters claimed victory because,



Nestlé advertising in a Singapore clinic; Hoffman, strict controls

they said, Nestlé had finally agreed to abide by international regulations governing the marketing of infant formulas. So the coalition lifted the boycott. Declared the campaign's Canadian co-ordinator, Margaret Bennett-Alder: "We have brought a huge multinational to its knees."

But Nestlé interpreted last week's developments differently. The company's Canadian spokesman, Raymond Peterson, said that in 1978 Nestlé pledged in advance to abide by a formula marketing code under scrutiny by the World Health Organization. He added that when WHO produced its code in 1981, Nestlé agreed to it. Said Peterson: "It is very hard for INFAC to claim they forced the industry to do something." The company was displeased with the negative publicity it received over the years, Peterson said, but the boycott never seriously affected it. Still, Nestlé officials met with international representatives of INFAC in New York last week, under the auspices of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and

INFAC was delighted with the outcome of the talks.

The new understanding, INFAC spokesmen announced at simultaneous press conferences in Toronto and Washington, means that Nestlé must adhere to the letter of the new code, including labelling its bottles with warnings of the risks of formula feeding compared to breast-feeding. The company must also abide by strict controls over the distribution of formula to new mothers, ensuring that, among other things, it is given only to women who have problems with breast-feeding. In the past, critics have maintained that Nestlé employees distributed jars enough of the formula in free samples to cause mothers to cease producing natural milk, leaving their wholly dependent on the

substitute. For its part, Nestlé said it abandoned any such practices years ago.

At the Toronto press conference, United Church spokesman David Hoffman, who led the Canadian delegation to the New York talks, commended Nestlé's new position. He said a decision to lift the boycott of Nestlé's consumer products—which include a chocolate milk powder, coffee and chocolate bars—would be adopted at an international conference on infant formula in Mexico City this week. The boycott will be under suspension for six months while consumer groups monitor Nestlé's marketing practices.

Nestlé became the main target of the infant formula protest because it controls more than half the formula market in the Third World and because it has a range of consumer products that the critics felt would be vulnerable to a boycott. INFAC said that they will now turn their attention toward the other smaller companies in the field. In Washington INFAC National Chairman Douglas Johnson called Nestlé a model for the industry.

Its representative at the Washington press conference, Rafael Pagan, president of Nestlé's Co-ordination Centre for Nutrition, said of the agreement with the boycotters: "This is one more affirmation that Nestlé is making every effort to fully implement the World Health Organization code." Then the two sides broke open a package of Nestlé's Crunch chocolate bars, and Johnson celebrated the lifting of the boycott by eating one in front of the assembled reporters and photographers.

—DAVID SELIGMAN
Toronto.



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FOR THE RECORD

Pop with wit and emotion

TOUCH
Berythones
(RCA)

Most bands that use synthesizers are content to simply lay with the technology, but Berythones is one that triumphs over electronic gimmicks with emotion and wit. Last year the passionate British duo had a major hit with *Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)*, in which the lead but resistant throat of Doro Schwaner's keyboards cried an Arctic Lament's bitter wails. On *Touch*, their second North American album, the sound is more adventurous with the addition of lush orchestral strings, horns and soulful singing. *Here Comes The Hot Chick* displays the new diversity. Lament's sultry voice is set against a perfect marriage of electronic and classical instrumentation. In fact, Lament conveys a convincing range of emotion throughout *Touch*, from the giddy staccato of *No Fear, No Hate, No Pain* (No Broken Hearts) to the joyous romp *Shake It Your Self*. The latter song, with Schwaner creating steel drum sounds from a telephone as Lament imitates his wife's voice, is a deliciously-savoured street dance, but captures the spirited dynamic in the duo's fruitful partnership.

ON TOP
Leroy Gibbons
(Mercury)

After moving to Toronto from Jamaica more than 10 years ago, singer Leroy Gibbons has become Canada's greatest old man of reggae. But Gibbons, the former leader of The Heptones, one of Jamaica's top groups, has always sung his own brand of reggae—sometimes called "rock steady"—with flavors of soul and rhythm and blues. Indeed, his last album, *Evidence*, had barely a trace of the reggae beat. Now Gibbons has returned to his roots. The compelling rhythms and playful horn arrangements of both *Rock and Come On* and *Only With You* match the best of his 1980s Jamaican hits. On *Pure Time* he charms a simple Heptones tune with a vocal smoothness that recalls Otis Redding. And when Gibbons sweetly beckons the listener to dance on the album's best cut, *Rock Steady Party*, the command is almost irresistible.

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RELIGION

Exodus from Quebec City

With ancestral roots dating from the British army's invasion of New France in 1759, Quebec City's Jewish settlement is the oldest in Canada. Local historians trace the roots of the community to Henry Joseph, a British quartermaster in Gen. James Wolfe's army who became a merchant. The community grew rapidly, and local Jews made their mark as merchants, lawyers, judges and politicians. Now, after 250 years of growth and prosperity, the community faces extinction. Last month elders of Congregation Beth Israel Ohev Shalom—the city's last remaining synagogue—put the 25-year-old building up for sale. With that, the most visible sign of the Jewish presence in the city will disappear. The move also will erase virtually any sign of a Jewish presence in the province of Quebec outside the Montreal region.

Membership in the 275-seat synagogue, which reached a high of about 300 in the early 1950s, has dwindled to about 15 families, or about 185 people. Rabbi Samuel Proger, who has headed the synagogue since 1967, moved to Montreal from Quebec City several years ago for personal reasons. Now he commutes to Quebec to conduct services. Sometimes he must call his members ahead of time to ensure that the minimum 10 adult males needed for the full services will be present at the synagogues.

The dissolution of the congregations came at a time when the overall Jewish community in Quebec has stabilized after a difficult decade. Quebec's Jewish population—it is still Canada's second largest after Ontario—dropped to 98,300 from 115,000 between 1971 and 1981. Many of those who left were shunned by the strongly nationalist rhetoric of the Parti Québécois when it came to power in 1996. According to McGill University sociologist Marion Wendell in Montreal, that reaction "was understandable" in a largely elderly Jewish immigrant community that had come to equate extreme nationalism with antisemitism during the Second World War. "There will always be a fear by non-Jews—particularly Jews—of any form of nationalism, because it seems to exclude them," he explained. But fears of discrimination have not material-

ized. Many Quebec Jewish leaders praise the PQ government for its dealings with the community. The province funds a network of Jewish private schools, and Cultural Communities Minister Gerald Collin has personally arranged funding for many projects.

In the case of Quebec City Jews, the problem is one of numbers. The congregation, with an average age estimated at more than 56, appears to have lost what demographers call the "critical mass"—the numbers needed for a community to reproduce and replace itself.



Rosenthal: "we got older, smaller and weaker"

The result, said congregation president Moshe Rosenthal, is that "We simply got older, and smaller and weaker." Despite the difficulties, some congregation members are determined to keep their community alive. There are plans to switch services to a private home once the synagogue is sold. And congregation member Elan Robinson has been lobbying the Canadian Jewish Congress for funds to save the synagogue. Saul Robinson: "I have said them that after all this history we have paid our dues and have earned the right to ask for help." If that help comes, it may be the only hope for a community that is having difficulty sustaining itself.

—ANTHONY WILSON SMITH
in Quebec City

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The key to a charmed life

By Elizabeth Spencer
(Doubleday, 300 pages, \$21.95)

In her new novel, *The Salt Lick*, Elizabeth Spencer returns to home ground—the Gulf Coast landscapes of her native Mississippi—to try the first long-distance run that the gifted short-story writer and novelist has made in 12 years. The book opens rather prosaically in a drugstore, where two men who were once best friends and academic colleagues successfully avoid an unexpected meeting. Arnie Carrington, an professor and an editorial contributor to *The New Yorker*, is

here of the 1960s, hides his short and inelegant person behind a rack of toothbrushes so that the impeccable Lexington Graham can buy a jar of Nonsensia undisturbed. The rest of the novel is devoted to showing how he and Graham cannot really avoid each other, each selling like fate on the other's life.

Carrington had left Graham behind three years earlier when he was forced to leave a northern Mississippi university because of a manufactured scandal. He thought that Graham and everything reliable and respectable was still stranded far above the "salt line"—the unmarked boundary at which Mississippians begin to feel the lure of the

son Carrington is on a personal crusade: the restoration of at least some of Natchez, a small (imaginary) town on the Gulf Coast, battered and destroyed by Hurricane Camille. He has bought a run-down hotel, a group of lots with smashed houses and an island harboring a ruined shrine to St. Francis which he wants to rebuild in pure images of the past to counteract the hamburger-stand plague of commercial redevelopment.

Graham has ventured into Carrington's territory seeking his own paradise. A recent wheelman has made him rich, and his academic career is successful. Everything is finally in place for him to be happy. Graham thinks the key to a magic transformation is to move his unhappy wife and beautiful

daughter into a white house by the sea, a house attacked by the hurricane while all its neighbors were swept away. No one has ever loved Graham the way that the dreamer Carrington has been loved. Graham hopes to take a little reasonable revenge: say no to the sleazebag banker Carrington's financial ideas.

The story has a pattern of ordinariness, two men in different kinds of middle-class crises lash out against each other, and the consequences ripple out over their worlds. Spencer is so rich in realistic narrative skills that the reader remains almost after the fact that *The Salt Land's* plot moves by such narrow margins.



Spencer: mysterious virus and ravishing alien

Twelve as a messenger seagull, the influence of Buddha, a mysterious viper's sting and revivifying knives. Spencer won her readers with perfect concision into a fictional landscape of magic, redemption and grace. The major lesson to accept (Carroll's theme), is that failure and grief are part of the charmed life. The hurricane forces wash up an 18-0, bronze Buddha statue into Spencer's life. His wife, Evelyn, who died a few months after the hurricane, makes ghostly appearances to ease his mourning and offer woe counsel.

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is as exciting as contemporary
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familly. His search, in his widowhood and fragile reminiscences, is for a thread that will smoothly connect the past to the present, calling on gods, friends and lovers for help. His gift is that he makes "life contagious, like measles." These infected spirits learn to live as writers and the rest of us live for the gift.

Graham is Spencer's version of an evil man. His life is a long series of conspiracies of old wives, of people wounds papered over with money and position but never healed. After a mysterious viper bites into one Carrington's island, Graham reveals in the delirium of these deep shadows of hatred and self-loathing. For him, "the past is quicksand." Admitting to that fact makes the successful present just an illusion. Graham's final lesson is that "everyone is right, except me." He tried too hard to make himself "right"—from the outside in.

The happy ending of *The Salt Lick* comes because the reader is thoroughly infected by Carrington. "The new family" has a life-affirming baby—Mavin's by the gangster—and even the gangster falls temporarily under Carrington's spell. In the end Spencer writes, "Everything has only the one chance in infinity of going right, but those there are who are always taking it." In this bleak Spencer's world, there is a model: those who live life fully, without trying to hedge their bets against bad times, always get better odds.

—ANNE COLLINS

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Marlin's comedy of exaggeration in which characters believe into caricatures

FILMS

Missing the funny bone

THE LONELY GUY

Directed by Arthur Hiller

Bruce Jay Friedman's comic ramblings on the plight of the modern single man in *The Lonely Guy's Book of Life* had the potential to be a bawdy, lighthearted movie. Instead *The Lonely Guy* is a comedy of exaggeration in which characters believe into caricatures and nearly every joke returns unwinded for a second round of applause. When Larry (Steve Martin) arrives home, he does not notice that his dance-girlfriend (Betsy Douglas) is in bed with someone else. Director Arthur Hiller leaves the viewers to ponder that situation repeatedly before the E-mail payoff—Larry's impatient rage. Temporarily banished, Larry meets a soul mate, Warren (Charles Grodin), on a Central Park bench, and Warren admits him about how to avoid depression. Larry tries everything, being firm to water and talk to, various occasions for reactivity, he even goes blind.

Most of the gags in *The Lonely Guy* are so obviously set up that the audience can hear the punch line long before the film-makers execute it. There is a hilariously absurd sequence in which Larry walks across the Manhattan Bridge to save the suicidal Warren, but even that gets an unconvincing more when other lonely guys keep plunging past him into the water. The screenplay

and (Neil Streeb has a writing credit) never knew when to stop.

Essentially, the movie is a vehicle for the considerable talents of Martin. He is a great presence, but the role rarely challenges him. He does have one wonderful scene in which he pretends his pillow is a girl, carrying on an extended dialogue with it and eventually smothering it with kisses. The scene has a resonance that is a perfect fit for Martin's personality and is reminiscent of *The Man With Two Brains*, in which he attaches plastic lips onto a jar containing a brain and pretends to make love to it. But without his pillow, Larry is a mannequin that is a perfect fit for Martin's personality and is reminiscent of *The Man With Two Brains*, in which he attaches plastic lips onto a jar containing a brain and pretends to make love to it. But without his pillow, Larry is a mannequin that is a perfect fit for Martin's brand of media.

At a time when being unattached seems close to a crime, the material of *The Lonely Guy* should breathe with underlying satire. And because Larry falls for a woman, his (Jeffery) Larry, who fears becoming involved with him because she likes him too much, there is plenty of room for poignancy. However, the hyperbole in *The Lonely Guy* diminishes the human possibilities in the story, and the satirical visual quality role is of a lived-in look. The drill Grodin becomes tiresome as his one role wears thin. Comedy thrives best when it deals with recognizable human behavior. *The Lonely Guy* grasps at any available straw for a laugh.

—LAWRENCE O'TOOLE

Everything old is new again

SCANDALOUS

Directed by Rob Cohen

Sophisticated romantic comedy, which had its heyday in the 1930s and 1940s, has resurfaced gracefully with *Scandalous*. John Grigliot and Pamela Stephenson, taking on the roles that Charles Coker and Barbara Stanwyck played in *The Lady Eve*, are reminded determined to baffle an investigative reporter (Robert Hays) out of his wife's fortune. True to tradition, the delicious beauty falls for the handsome publisher, and the son artists' scheme unfolds. Further complications arise when someone murders the reporter's wife, placing him under suspicion and at trouble with the police. From there, the plot is clumsily orchestrated and its rhythms belabored. The movie is devoid of wit.

There is also a glaring absence of wit in *Scandalous*; something is definitely wrong with a movie when even John Grigliot cannot deliver it for a moment. The usually droll and sensible actor, who can steal scenes as easily as he breathes, has not a single witty line on which to chew, instead, he appears in a number of bizarre scenes, including a Japanese businessman and an intense pink roller. The charm of the early comedies relied on sharp, snappy dialogue, but even more on the charisma and timing of its stars. As the befuddled American newspaper working in London, Hays (Airplane!) has the good looks of a romantic lead but he lacks the delicate manner. His responses to the situations in which he becomes embroiled are always fairly mangled faces of pained rage and consternation. And although Pamela Stephenson does funny stuff, she never manages to approximate the chic and allure of such earlier sophisticates as Cécile LeBeau or Claudette Colbert. Ultimately, neither of the actors has an engaging personal style.

Without personal style and a governing comic tone, every scene in *Scandalous* looks like the work of a different director. Rob Cohen, who cannot manage a light touch, pushes each gag into garrulousness; an unbearable second-hand inspector (contracted to the point of hysteria by Jim Dale) seems like a missing, amateur version of Peter Sellers's long Cocker. Although Jack Cardiff's photography of London is lovely, so are some of the interiors, the resemblances to sophisticated romantic comedy and there *Scandalous* has all the elegance of the last drunk at a bar.

—L.O.T.

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Canada

A cityscape in grey and white

By Allan Fotheringham

Ottawa, the village that aspires to be a city, is uncharacteristic in the history of nature, the swirling snow making visibility difficult. One moves about the town by trail, guided only by the knobs on the foreheads of the most prominent deputy ministers. The snow along the streets is now a deep grey, reminding the host of the previous politics. One in Rockcliffe, the snow is pristine white, since the high mandarin who lives there still drive snow-laden Volvo and actually prefer to arrive at work at what is laughably called work by cross-country ski to separate them from the common herd. Those who smile gapes in Rockcliffe are asked to use snowblades to groom, grown organically by hedges in the Gatineau hills, so as to prevent fallout.

Just when all is supposed to be sweetest and light with the fish-eating Tories, Joe Clark's man in Quebec begins to talk about a resurrection of their hero Marcellus Dumas, that Clark supporters are controlling the nominations is a number of Quebec Conservative seats, preparing for the day when Brian Mulroney is replaced. Dumas, as Clark's campaign manager in Quebec, was the genius who disappeared for several weeks in the middle of the leadership campaign last spring and went to L'Ange as a guest of Col. Khalaf, the well-known believer in pashas.

Winter presses on, and so does Ottawa. Senator Irvine Barnes of Nova Scotia for two years has been vice-chairman of the Senate's banking, trade and commerce committee. Last year he was convicted of influence peddling by the Nova Scotia Supreme Court and fined \$25,000. The good senator is a former bagman for the Liberal party, meeting a chap who goes around to corporations with a large sack, playing a revenue Santa Claus, demanding booze. He was found guilty of masterminding a scheme in which diffusers kicked back money to provincial Liberals in Nova. Allan Fotheringham is a columnist for Southern News.

Scotia in exchange for having their products listed by the Nova Scotia Legislative Commission. The Canadian Constitution states that senators and MPs must relinquish their seats if they are convicted of treason, felony or "any infamous crime." The Criminal Code says anyone convicted of such an offence cannot hold government office. While he is appealing the conviction, Senator Barnes has been re-elected by his colleagues. He has now again appointed chairman of the influential Senate banking, trade and commerce committee. He was supported by Bud Olson,

prime ambassador if he left federal politics. The light went on in John Turner's computer, and Jean Chretien bought a new Berlin course. So Pierre de Cullac revealed the past secret in it. Yagoslav's undersecretary for foreign affairs, Milica Kuznetsov. Lights went out in the eyes of the matrons all over Rockcliffe, eager to end 26 season Drive's era as a men's retreat. The last time there was a party there, the Beverly Brothers were still together.

Maureen McLeer tells a reporter that Brian Mulroney was in a "B-Team" working to wrestle the leadership from her husband and that she is "frustrating my life now" and will possibly leave Ottawa to study at Harvard. Marc Gosselin Lalonde accuses Mulroney of writing letters to the government, when he was in private business, on behalf of "the rich." The letters, according to Mulroney, were on behalf of mine workers in remote areas. Mulroney says that he will "absolutely" launch his European tour and 24 hours later cancels it. Living in Casa City while the Liberals bowl does something serious to the nationalists.

The outgoing governor general, Ed Schreyer, has stomach pains and is taken to hospital. The incoming governor general, Jeanne Sauvé, has a recurrence of a viral infection and is returned to bed. It is all connected to the reluctance of either one to face the flying sugar cubes aimed by the members of the parliamentary Press Gallery at their annual banquet in April, as their form of election criticism.

The U.S. ambassador to Canada, Paul Robinson, throws a pink black-the-dominance for Ken Taylor in his Rockcliffe mansion, featuring fans flown in from Montreal and Toronto. Taylor, in the meantime, is forced to leave his Park Avenue residence in New York because Ottawa is shoving him out as Canadian consul general. He is moving into a small furnished apartment and has no real job. He is being punished because he is too high profile for External Affairs. The U.S. ambassador throws parties for him because the Canadians won't. This, too, is Ottawa.



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